龍狼傳

正式授權中文版全新系列

山原義人

八

RYUURODEN

龍狼伝

山原義人

YAMAHARA YOSHITO

CHINA'S MAINLAND HAS BEEN VERY RICH WITH THEIR CULTURE. SINCE 1800 YEARS AGO IT HAS BEEN RULED BY "HOU-HAN" KINGDOM. HOWEVER, IT IS NOW UNDER THE THREAT TO BE COLLAPSED. OFFICERS STARTED TO HOLD THE POWER TO REPLACE THE KING. SELLING POSITION IN GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN A VERY COMMON PROCEDURE AND THEREFORE THE COUNTRY BECOMES CHAOTIC AND THIS CAUSES POVERTY AND HUNGER AMONG THE CITIZENS.

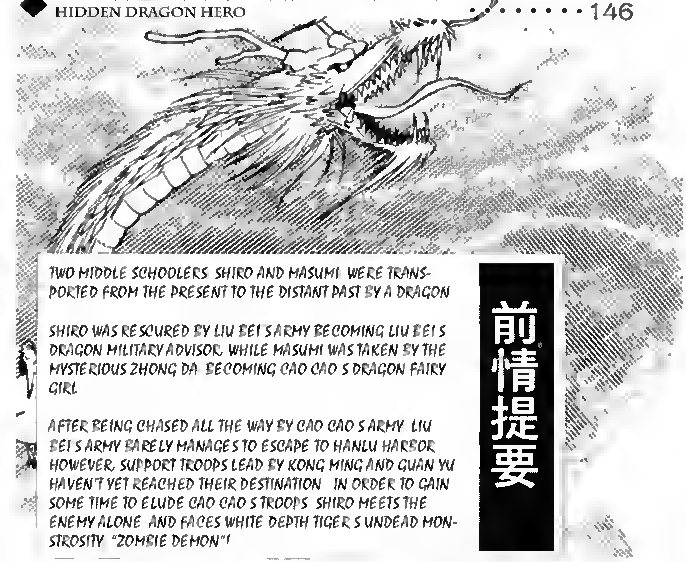
USING THIS SITUATION, A RELIGIOUS SECT NAMED "TAIPING" GETS THE CITIZENS' SUPPORT. BY USING THE "HOU-HAN TIME HAS ENDED AND IT IS OUR TIME NOW" SLOGAN, THEY ORGANIZE A REBELLION IN YEAR 184 AD. SINCE THEY ARE CALLED YELLOW TURBAN ETHNIC, THEIR PROTEST IS CALLED THE "YELLOW TURBAN REBELLION".

AFTER HOU-HAN HAD LOST THEIR POWER, THEY COULDN'T EXTINGUISH THIS REBELLION. SO THE KINGDOM ASKS THE LOCAL RULERS THAT HAS BEEN LOYAL THE KINGDOM TO DO IT IN THEIR PLACE. THE PROBLEM IS RESOLVED, HOWEVER, THE RESULT IS THE STRONGER POWER OF THE LOCAL RULERS. THEY INFLUENCE ESCALATED TO THE POINT THAT CHINA WAS DIVIDED.

AFTER THESE EVENTS, THE STRONGEST CHARACTER IS TS'AO TS'AO. WHILE, SUN QUAN DOMINATES IN YANG CHOU CITY AND RULES THE SOUTHEAST AREA. AND DON'T FORGET THE EXISTENCE OF LIU PEI WHO HAS CLEVER FOLLOWERS, EVEN THOUGH HE DOESN'T OWN ANY AREAS. A DRAMA OF THEIR EFFORT TO UNIFY THE CHINA LATER HAS BEEN TOLD AS "THE LEGEND OF THE THREE KINGDOM".

目 錄

- CHAPTER 28: NON-STOP BATTLE (TECHNICALLY, LIMITLESS BATTLE) ····· 5
- CHAPTER 29: A DISTANT ····· 53
- CHAPTER 30: QUIET OPENING BATTLE ····· 99
- CHAPTER 31: THE FEARSOME REPUTATION OF THE HIDDEN DRAGON HERO ····· 146



前情提要

TWO MIDDLE SCHOOLERS SHIRO AND MASUMI WERE TRANSPORTED FROM THE PRESENT TO THE DISTANT PAST BY A DRAGON

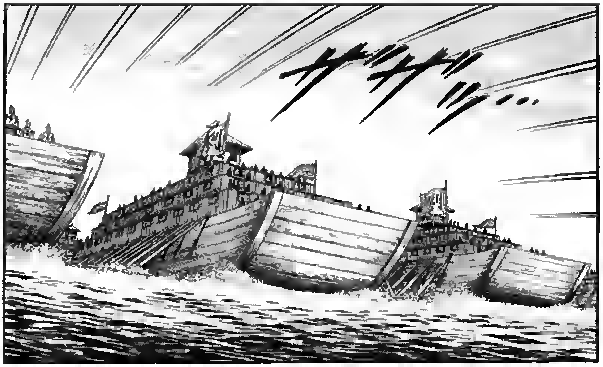
SHIRO WAS RESCURED BY LIU BEI'S ARMY BECOMING LIU BEI'S DRAGON MILITARY ADVISOR. WHILE MASUMI WAS TAKEN BY THE MYSTERIOUS ZHONG DA BECOMING CAO CAO'S DRAGON FAIRY GIRL

AFTER BEING CHASED ALL THE WAY BY CAO CAO'S ARMY LIU BEI'S ARMY BARELY MANAGES TO ESCAPE TO HANLU HARBOR HOWEVER, SUPPORT TROOPS LEAD BY KONG MING AND GUAN YU HAVEN'T YET REACHED THEIR DESTINATION IN ORDER TO GAIN SOME TIME TO ELUDE CAO CAO'S TROOPS SHIRO MEETS THE ENEMY ALONE AND FACES WHITE DEPTH TIGER'S UNDEAD MONSTROSITY "ZOMBIE DEMON"!

本書是收錄月刊少年漫畫1995年11月號至1996年2月號所刊載的作品。

CHAPTER 28

NON-STOP BATTLE

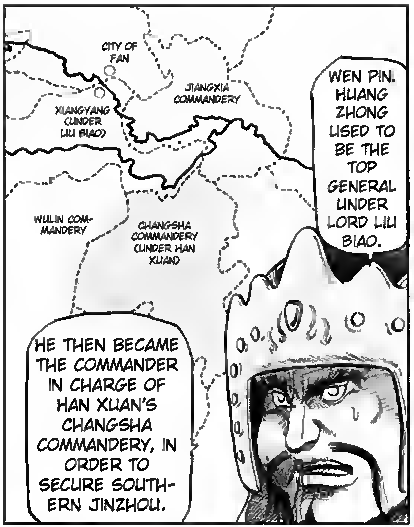


GENERAL GUAN YU, WE'LL BE ARRIVING AT HANLU VERY QUICKLY.

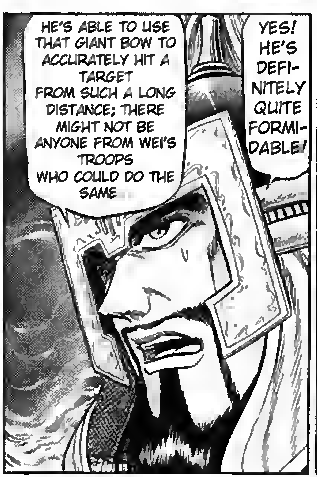
MILITARY ADVISER KONG MING, THIS IS THE PROPER ACTION, RIGHT?

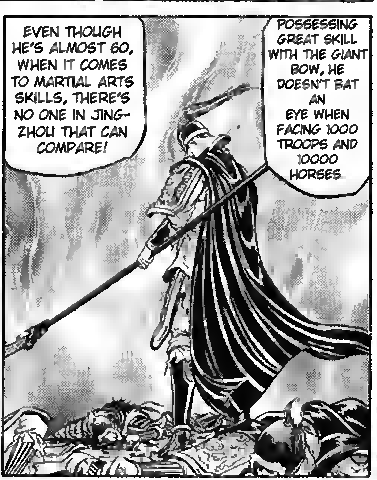
WITH SUCH SLOW TROOP MOVEMENT SPEED, CAO CAO'S CERTAIN TO HAVE CAUGHT UP TO OUR LORD.
IF THAT'S THE CASE, THEY HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO TAKE THE WATERWAYS AND ESCAPE TO HANSHUI. I BELIEVE THEY'RE PROBABLY GATHERING AT HANLU HARBOR RIGHT NOW!
YES,
BUT ...
BUT ?
BUT WHAT?
BEGINNING JUST A MOMENT AGO,
MY HEART'S BEEN POUNDING IMPATIENTLY.
I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S WARRIOR'S INSTINCT, BUT
I CONSTANTLY HAVE THIS FEELING THAT WE MUST ARRIVE AT HANLU AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE!

THIS STORY IS FICTION. ANY RESEMBLANCE TO ANYONE OR (ANY) STORY IN REAL LIFE IS COINCIDENTAL


CITY OF FAN
XIANGYANG (UNDER LIU BIAO)
JIANGXIA COMMANDERY
WULIN COMMANDERY
CHANGSHA COMMANDERY (UNDER HAN XUAN)
WEN PIN. HUANG ZHONG USED TO BE THE TOP GENERAL UNDER LORD LIU BIAO.
HE THEN BECAME THE COMMANDER IN CHARGE OF HAN XUAN'S CHANGSHA COMMANDERY, IN ORDER TO SECURE SOUTHERN JINZHOU.

WHAT'S WITH THAT GUY, HUANG ZHONG?
GENERAL WEN PIN,
GENERAL ZHANG LIAO!


HE'S ABLE TO USE THAT GIANT BOW TO ACCURATELY HIT A TARGET FROM SUCH A LONG DISTANCE; THERE MIGHT NOT BE ANYONE FROM WEI'S TROOPS WHO COULD DO THE SAME.
YES! HE'S DEFINITELY QUITE FORMIDABLE!


EVEN THOUGH HE'S ALMOST 60, WHEN IT COMES TO MARTIAL ARTS SKILLS, THERE'S NO ONE IN JINGZHOU THAT CAN COMPARE!
POSSESSING GREAT SKILL WITH THE GIANT BOW, HE DOESN'T BAT AN EYE WHEN FACING 1000 TROOPS AND 10000 HORSES.

AH, WEI YAN!
GENERAL HUANG ZHONG!
!
SO THAT'S WHERE YOU WERE!
HOW TROUBLESOME! YOU CAN'T HEAD OUT BY YOURSELF JUST BECAUSE YOU THINK THAT THE TROOPS ARE TOO SLOW!
THAT, THAT'S ...!
DRAGON MILITARY ADVISER!
HUH?

WHAT HAPPENED HERE?
AND THAT LARGE ARMY'S BANNER, THAT'S WEN PIN'S TROOPS...

I'D LIKE TO SEE HIS SKILLS, MAYBE JINGZHOU CAN FLIP FROM BEING IN A PRECARIOUS SITUATION TO BEING IN A SECURE SITUATION!
MY LORD LIU BIAO DEEPLY ADMIRES THE DRAGON CHILD...

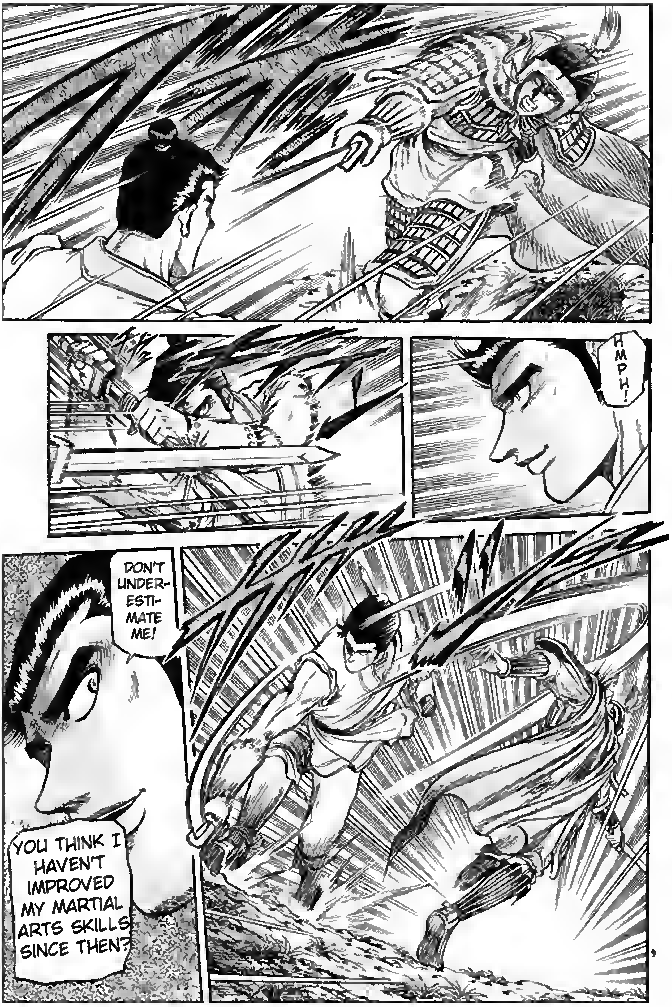
HUH? YOU'RE SAYING THAT HE'S THE DRAGON CHILD?

IN ORDER TO PROTECT CHANGSHA FROM CAO CAO'S POISONOUS GRASP, I CAME HERE TO SCOUT THEIR TROOP MOVEMENT. I NEVER THOUGHT THAT MATTERS WOULD TURN OUT LIKE THIS!
THINGS ARE GETTING MORE AND MORE INTERESTING!

HE DIDN'T DIE, EVEN THOUGH HIS WHOLE BODY'S BEEN PIERCED BY THE ARROW! HE'S A DEMON!
HE... HE'S STILL ALIVE!
WHAT?
ISN'T THAT SOLDIER UNDER YOUR COMMAND, GENERAL WEN PIN?
HMM...
UNDEAD DEMON!
ARGH!

THERE'S SOMEONE HIDDEN IN THE SHADOWS WHO'S PULLING THE STRINGS!
IT SEEMS THAT IN THIS BATTLE
I NEVER KNEW THAT THIS DEMON EXISTED AMONGST MY TROOPS!
HE'S CERTAINLY WEARING THE ARMOR THAT MY TROOPS WEAR.
HMM
THIS MONSTER CAME TO TAKE CARE OF ME!
ALLOW ME, DRAGON CHILD!
THE ZOMBIE PUPPET CREATION OF MY FORMER TIGER ARMY COMMANDER, WHITE SHADE TIGER!
IT'S A ZOMBIE DEMON,
WU ZHEN?

I BET HE'S PISSED THAT A FORMER UNDERLING TURNED AGAINST HIM, SO THAT'S WHY HE SENT A ZOMBIE PUPPET TO TEACH ME A LESSON.
WU ZHEN: WHITE SHADE TIGER IS A MEMBER OF THE 5 TIGER GODS.
ZOMBIE PUPPET ?
THAT'S A TERRIFYING MAGIC USED TO CONTROL CORPSES TO DEFEAT ENEMIES.
YES!
THAT'S CORRECT ... WU ZHEN!
YOU'RE NO MATCH FOR THIS ZOMBIE DEMON!
JUST GIVE UP AND DIE QUIETLY!


HMPH!
DON'T UNDER-ESTI-MATE ME!
YOU THINK I HAVEN'T IMPROVED MY MARTIAL ARTS SKILLS SINCE THEN?

SINCE YOU JOINED US, YOUR GROWTH WAS QUITE REMARK-ABLE...
YOU'RE NATU-RALLY TAL-ENTED ...
HE HE ...
NOT TOO BAD !
ANYWAY, YOU LACK THE QUAL-ITIES TO ONE OF OUR TROOPS . THAT'S WHY YOU WERE CONSIDERED A FAILURE!
BUT, YOU WERE TOO NAIVE! YOU COULDN'T MANAGE TO ELIMINATE YOUR HUMAN EMO-TIONS!
SHUT UP!
SHUT..

OH, OH NO!
ARGH!
EVEN IF YOU'VE IMPROVED, YOUR SKILLS ARE STILL JUST SECOND-RATE...
YOU CLEARLY KNEW THAT A BLADE IS USELESS AGAINST A CORPSE, YET STILL INSISTED ON STABBING IT?
HOW LAUGHABLE!
DIE!
URGH!

KWAK
THIS IS EMPTY MOUNTAIN DESTRUCTION!
I WON'T ALLOW
(HUFF)
(HUFF)
(HUFF)
YOU TO KILL MY COMRADE IN FRONT OF MY EYES...

I DON'T CARE IF MY BODY FALLS APART ...
STABBING PAIN!
I DON'T EVER WANT TO SEE PAINED EXPRESSIONS LIKE THAT OF AI LIN AGAIN!
HUFF!
HUFF!
DRAGON CHILD!
...
HOW...
DISGUSTING ...
WAAHH!
WAAHH!
YOU REALLY WANT TO TAKE THIS TO THE END AGAINST ME?

HURRY AND RUN, DRAGON CHILD!
OH NO!
DRAGON CHILD!
THEN I'LL FIRST SEND YOU TO HELL! (TECHNICALLY, IT'S "BUDDHIST PARADISE", NOT HELL
ARGH!
AH!
USING THE EMPTY MOUNTAIN DESTRUCTION FORCED MY CLOUD WIND BODY TO EXCEED ITS LIMIT!
CRAP, I CAN'T MOVE MY BODY!

WHAT... WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
ACCORDING TO THE PRIME MINISTER'S ORDERS, I CAN'T ALLOW YOU TO KILL THE DRAGON CHILD!
MONSTER! I'M STOPPING YOU NOW!

THE GENERAL TOOK HIS HEAD!
WOW!
AH..
GENERAL ZHANG LIAO?
...

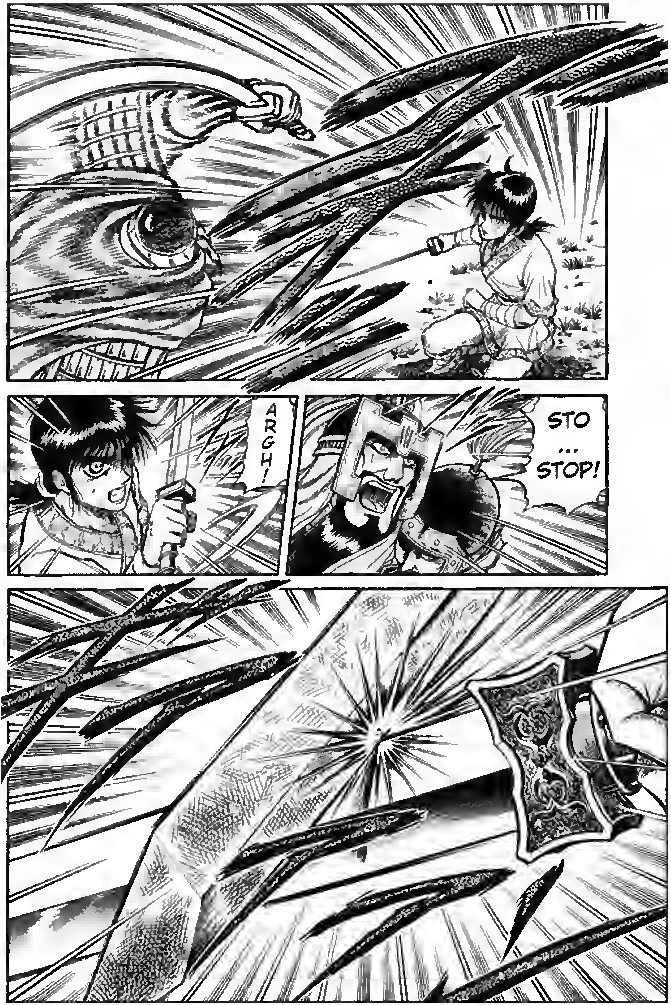
ARGH!
AH!
GENERAL!
THE HEAD IS STILL ALIVE?
WHA.. WHAT ?

HURRY UP BODY, MOVE!
ARGH!
WHAT AN ABOMINATION!
ARGH!
WHAT A VILE MONSTROSITY!
URGH!
AH!
HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE?
EVEN THOUGH IT'S BEEN DECAPITATED, THE HEAD AND BODY CAN STILL MOVE INDEPENDENTLY?

HA!
HURRY!
USE THIS CHANCE TO RUN AWAY, DRAGON CHILD!
WU ZHEN!

HE ...
EVEN PIERCED HIS OWN BODY!
AH!
WU ZHEN!
HUFF!
!!

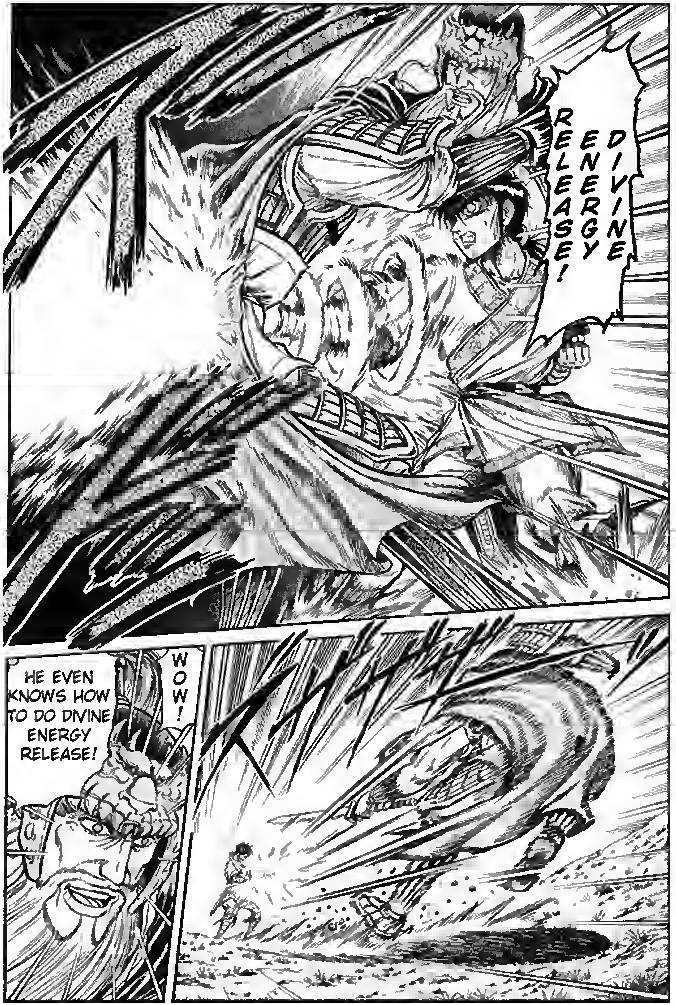
!
HUFF!
HUFF!
I CAN'T GIVE UP, NO MATTER WHAT!
HUFF!
HUFF!
I'VE RECOVERED SOME ENERGY EVEN IF ITS JUST A LITTLE BIT...
I STILL HAVEN'T RESCUED MASUMI YET!
I CAN'T DIE HERE!


ARGH!
STO
...
STOP!

BUDDY, I WON'T ALLOW YOU TO TAKE THE DRAGON CHILD'S LIFE SO EASILY!
HA HA ...
HUH?

DRAGON CHILD, WHY DON'T YOU ALLOW ME TO HELP YOU OUT?
ALTHOUGH YOU'RE JUST A YOUTH, YOUR FIGHTING SKILLS ARE TOP-NOTCH.
HUANG ZHONG? GENERAL
HUANG
HUFF!
HUFF!
HUFF!
I CAN SMASH ROCKS WITH MY SWORD, YET THIS MONSTER'S FREAKISH STRENGTH MANAGED TO STOP MY SWORD!
THIS ... THIS SCUM!
WHA... WHAT?
ARGH!
NO!

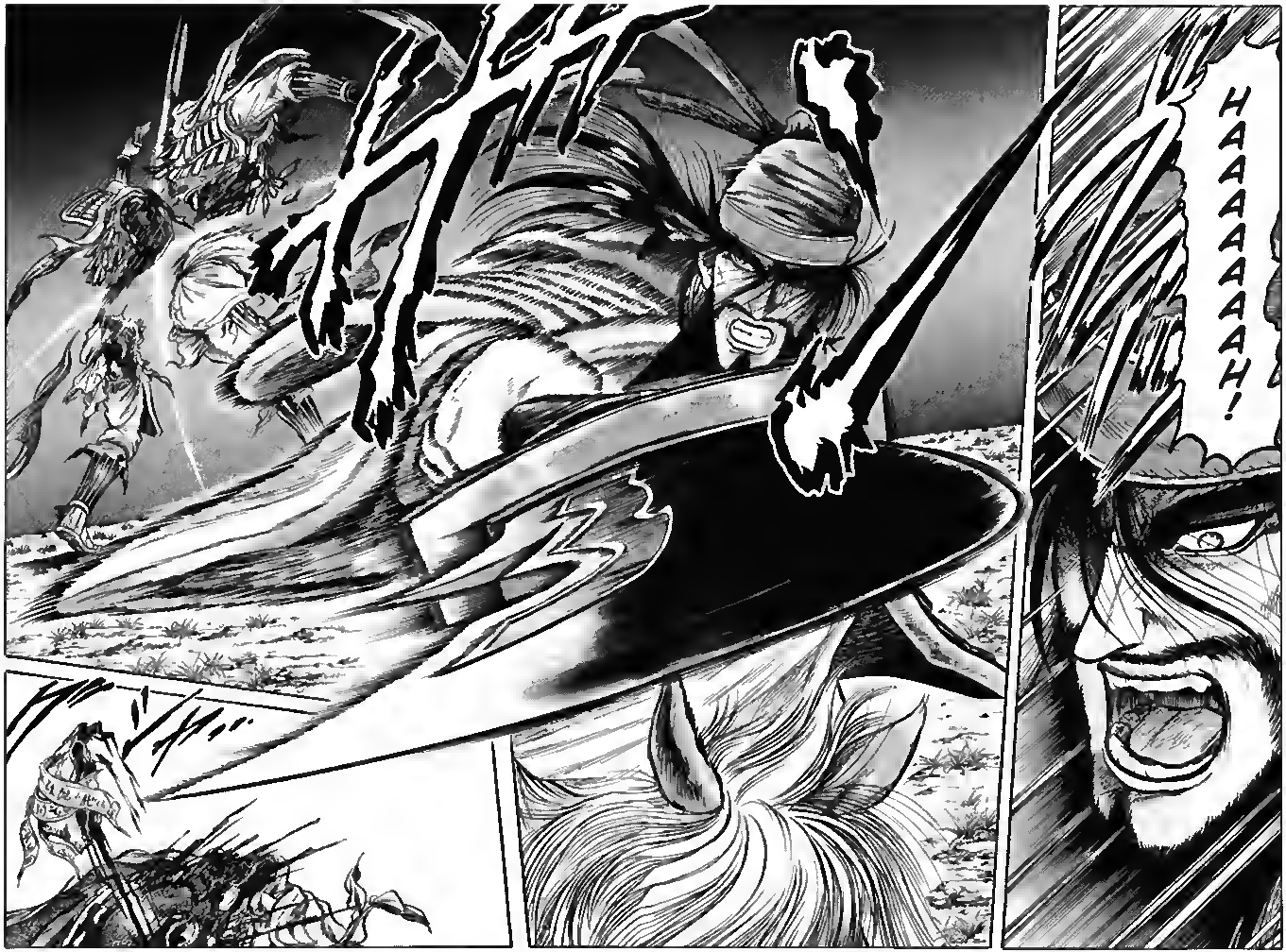
HUFF!
HUFF!
HUFF!
諸説……
DIE, ZOMBIE DEMON!
AH...
I MUST CONCENTRATE MY ENERGERY
AND GATHER ALL MY REMAINING ENERGY AT ONE POINT!
ONLY ONE SHOT
THIS ATTACK MUST WORK!


DIVINE ENERGY RELEASE!
WOW!
HE EVEN KNOWS HOW TO DO DIVINE ENERGY RELEASE!

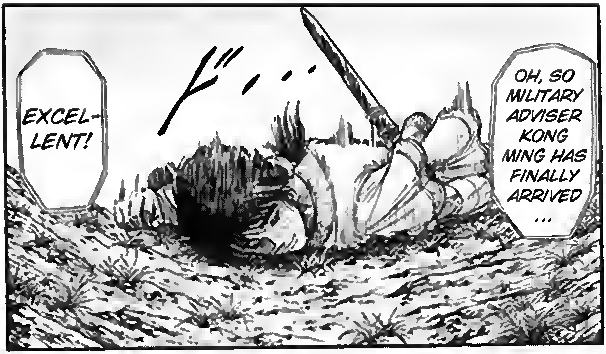
PAY CLOSE ATTEN-TION!
HUH?
WHAT?
EVEN DIVINE ENERGY RELEASE IS INEFFEC-TIVE?

I MUST ENDURE UNTIL THE END!
BUT, IF I GIVE UP, IT'S ALL OVER!
HUFF!
HUFF!
HUFF!
CAN'T MOVE ANYMORE
HUFF!
HUFF!
MY BODY
HUFF!
ARGH
SINCE THAT'S HOW IT IS, I'M GOING TO DUEL AGAINST YOU!
WHAT A FREAK!
SOMEONE'S HEADING THIS WAY ON HORSE-BACK!
HUH?
GOOD HEAVENS! EVEN DRAGON CHILD CAN'T DEFEAT HIM!
WHAT'S THAT?

ゴゴ ゴゴ…
AH!
COULD HE BE …
HE'S …

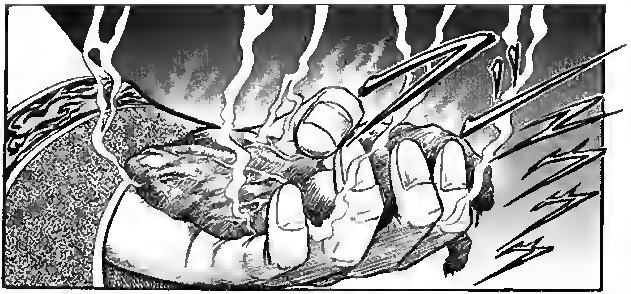

HAAAAAAH!

HUH?
SCREECH!
SFX: SCREECHING SOUND / MOVE
AMAZING! HE FINISHED OFF THAT MONSTER IN AN INSTANT!
IT'S GUAN YU!
WOW!
GUAN
THIS ISN'T AN ILLUSION RIGHT?
THIS
WHAT FEARSOME SKILLS WITH A BLADE! AS I EXPECTED FROM GUAN YU!
GUAN YU! GENERAL
HUFF!
HUFF!


EXCEL-LENT!
OH, SO MILITARY ADVISER KONG MING HAS FINALLY ARRIVED ...

IT'S MUCH MORE IMPOR-TANT THAN YOU REALIZE! HOW COULD YOU COME ALONE WITHOUT TELLING ANYONE?
DO YOU REALIZE HOW IMPORTANT IT IS FOR YOU TO STAY ALIVE . .?
(SOB)

WHEW
(MOVES)
I NEVER IMAGINED YOU'D BE FIGHTING HERE AGAINST A HEADLESS MONSTER!



THAT INSOLENT GUAN YU.. APPARENTLY, HE KNEW TO TAKE OUT THE HEART FROM THE BODY OF THE ZOMBIE DEMON!
HMPH

YOU MANAGED TO ESCAPE WITH YOUR LIFE AGAINST THE ZOMBIE DEMON!
HOW LUCKY, DRAGON CHILD!

APPARENTLY, AN OBSTRUCTION HAS EMERGED!

?

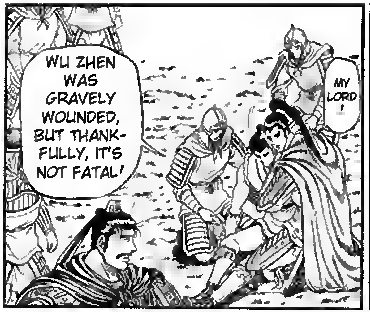
THE DUST CLOUD AHEAD!
WOW... HEY, LOOK!
WE MUSTN'T ALLOW DISASTER TO BEFALL THE DRAGON MILITARY ADVISER!
HURRY!

AS WELL AS ZHANG FEI AND ZHAO YUN!
THAT'S XUAN DE'S ARMY!
YOU'RE RIGHT, ZHANG LIAO!
!
ARE THEY XUAN DE'S REIN-FORCE-MENTS?
HMPH! WHERE DID THAT ARMY COME FROM?
GUAN YU!
GENERAL
HMPH
ZHANG LIAO, DO YOU HONESTLY THINK YOU HAVE A CHANCE OF WINNING HERE?
LIU QI FROM JIANGXIA COM-MANDERY PLACED MORE THAN 11, 000 TROOPS DIRECTLY UNDER MILITARY ADVISER KONG MING'S COMMAND.

IT'S A RARE OPPORTUNITY, WITH XUAN DE AND THE DRAGON CHILD SO CLOSE.
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
HUH?
WEN PIN, WE'LL RETREAT FOR NOW!
THIS, THIS ...!
IF THERE WERE LESS ENEMY TROOPS, WE COULD MANAGE BUT BESIDES DEALING WITH SUPERIOR NUMBERS, WE'D ALSO HAVE TO DEAL WITH THE EXCELLENT GENERALS GUAN YU, ZHANG FEI, AND ZHAO YUN, WE'RE AT TOO GREAT OF A DISADVANTAGE!
HAVING MARCHED NON-STOP TO XIANGYANG, OUR SOLDIERS AND HORSES ARE WEARY.
WAAAHHH!
LISTEN UP! RETREAT! ALL TROOPS, RETREAT!
CRAP, IT CAN'T BE HELPED!

UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN, GENERAL GUAN YU!
IF IT WASN'T FOR YOUR INSOLENT MEDDLING, I WOULD'VE CAPTURED THE DRAGON CHILD BY NOW!
YOU BASTARD, HUANG ZHONG!
NEXT TIME, LET'S DUEL IN A FAIR MATCH, WITHOUT THE INTERFERENCE OF DEMONIC MAGIC!
I DIDN'T KNOW ANY-THING ABOUT THE MONSTER THAT YOU JUST SLEW.
!
GENERAL GUAN YU!
HMPH!
WHAT A CHIVAL-ROUS HERO!

HOW'S SHIRO?
DID HE ...?
YES ...
HE SEEMS TO BE EXTREMELY WEAKENED!
GUAN YU! IS SHIRO OKAY?
CAO CAO'S TROOPS ARE A BUNCH OF SISSIES!
UPON SEEING OUR ARRIVAL, THEY TURNED TAIL AND RAN AWAY, LEAVING NOT A SHADOW NOR A TRACE!
AH, HONORABLE KIND SIR,
!
THANK YOU FOR HELPING SHIRO AND FIGHTING IN HIS PLACE!
HUH?
IS THIS TRUE?
I OFFER MY GREATEST REGARDS
ALTHOUGH I DON'T KNOW YOUR HONORABLE NAME, PLEASE ACCEPT MY HEARTFELT GRATITUDE!


WU ZHEN WAS GRAVELY WOUNDED, BUT THANKFULLY, IT'S NOT FATAL!
MY LORD!

HOWEVER, ISN'T TREATING THE WOUNDED THE MOST IMPORTANT TASK RIGHT NOW?
SO YOU'RE LORD XUAN DE! I'M PLEASED BY YOUR SINCERITY

THAT COMMENT CAUGHT MY EAR!

WHY DID HE CHOOSE TO STAND AND FIGHT AGAINST THE ENEMY WITH JUST TWO PEOPLE?
AND THE DRAGON CHILD,

RELYING SO MUCH ON THE STRENGTH OF A YOUNG CHILD...
AH...

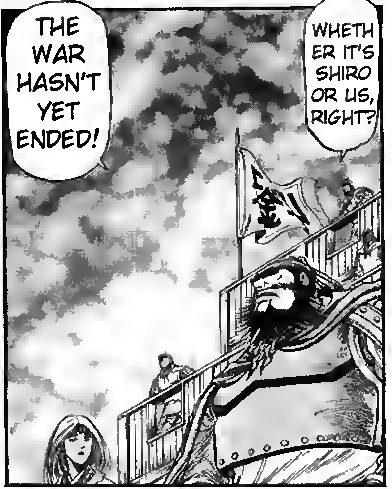
THANKS TO HIS SACRIFICE!
BUT, WE WERE VERY LIKELY SAVED,

I CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH, LORD XUAN DE,
TAKING SPECIAL CARE TO SEND ME BACK TO CHANGSHA ON YOUR BOAT!
THAT GOES WITHOUT SAYING! I'M OVERJOYED TO BE ABLE TO MAKE THE ACQUAINTANCE OF THE FAMOUS HUANG ZHONG!
C'MON XUAN DE, HAVE ANOTHER DRINK!
HA HA HA! ALTHOUGH YOU'RE JUST BEING POLITE, IT STILL MAKES ME QUITE HAPPY!
HEY, WHO'S THAT OLD FART?
HE'S THE BENEVOLENT PERSON WHO SAVED SHIRO!

WHAT DOES HE TAKE US GENERALS FOR? THAT STINKING, ROTTEN, NO-GOOD PUNK!
"GAINING US TIME" MY ASS!
WHO TOLD HIM TO OBSTINATELY INSIST ON FIGHTING THE ENEMY ALONE?
BENE VO-LENT PERS ON MY ASS!
UNDER THOSE CONDI-TIONS, IF WE HAD STOPPED AND ENGAGED THE ENEMY IN COMBAT, IT MIGHT HAVE DELAYED OUR REUNION WITH KONG MING'S TROOPS!
BUT LADY YUE YING WAS RIGHT.
AS A WARRIOR, SHIRO'S ACTIONS CER-TAINLY ANGERED ME GREATLY AS WELL...
THAT'S ENOUGH ZHANG FEI!
ZHANG! GENERAL
PLEASE FORGIVE ME,
AH, NO! I'M NOT BLAMING YOU, IT'S ALL SHIRO'S FAULT!
BUT IT'S TRUE THAT I DECEIVED EVERYONE BY NOT TELLING ANYONE ABOUT IT

BUT, THIS CAMPAIGN HAS ALREADY SACRIFICED THE LIVES OF TOO MANY COMMONERS!
THAT'S WHY SHIRO WAS FORCED TO ACT THAT WAY!

HMPH,
THAT'S EXACTLY WHY HE CAN'T ALLOW HIMSELF TO BE KILLED.


WHETHER IT'S SHIRO OR US, RIGHT?
THE WAR HASN'T YET ENDED!

DO YOU THINK THAT HE'S A HOPE-LESS IDIOT?
MILITARY ADVISER KONG MING,
HUFF!
HUFF!
AS IF HE'S DEAD ...
HUFF!
HUFF!
HUFF!
HE'S SLEE PING,
BUT HE ALWAYS COMES BACK COVERED IN BLOOD AND FULL OF INJURIES... I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYONE AS DUMB AS HIM...
HIS STRENGTH IS AM IZING, HE'S SKILLED AT EVERYTHING, AND APPROACHES THE BATTLE-FIELD FULL OF SELF-CONFI-DENCE...
BUT, ONCE I SEE HIM, I'M JUST SO GLAD TO SEE THAT HE'S STILL ALIVE...
AM I ALSO A GREAT FOOL?
WHEN I FOUND OUT, I WAS SO ENRAGED THAT I WANTED TO KILL THIS FOOL!
THIS TIME, HE EVEN TRICKED EVERYONE AND WENT OFF BY HIMSELF, RISKING HIS OWN LIFE!

TO BE A FOOL!
IT'S GOOD
AS A RESULT, HE'S GIVEN FORM TO HUMAN EMOTIONS.
HUFF!
HUFF!
HE ACTED FOOLISHLY IN ORDER TO PROTECT EVERYONE.
I BELIEVE THAT WE CAN CHANGE THIS CHAOTIC WORLD BECAUSE PEOPLE LIKE HIM EXIST!
CHAPTER 28 END

龍狼傳
特別付錄

暢遊三國世界！

第12回「忠義之士」張遼。

在第27話中，魏將張遼終於和「龍之軍師」志狼直接對決了！究竟在魏將中頗負威名，且與關羽也有一段軼事的張遼是何許人也？

「魏」之義士

張遼字文遠，是曹軍中的名將，也是挺受「三國」迷歡迎的人物之一。

其爲人素有義名，大概是因和關羽交情不錯之故吧？「三國演義」中關於張遼最有名的軼事，應屬他對因敗給曹操而與劉備分散兩地的關羽說，若其戰死，乃是有悖對劉備的結義之情，而勸其降曹一事。以「義」說服重義之人的關羽，此乃張遼之所以染上義名之故。

首侍丁原、後又投靠呂布的張遼是個不受上司賞識的下屬，然而到了曹操麾下後，卻是他人生飛黃騰達的轉捩點。幾乎在曹操的每次遠征中都會帶他同行，屢建奇功。「赤壁戰」後，曹操、孫權、劉備成鼎立之勢，當此時，曹操命張遼駐屯在戰略要地合肥，以防止南方的吳，由此可見曹操對張遼的信賴。

在下一任皇帝曹丕在位時，張遼仍深得其信賴，以抱病之身繼續駐守在魏的最前線。孫權自始至終都很懼怕張遼，據說他還曾下令要眾人對張遼小心防範。

（文・本誌編輯部）

JANKENDON SCANLATIONS

RYUURODEN WAS BROUGHT TO YOU BY:
* RAW PROVIDER: RAVENOUSREADER
* TRANSLATOR: GEKODEMO
* PROOFREADER: APEMAN
* EDITOR: RAVENOUSREADER

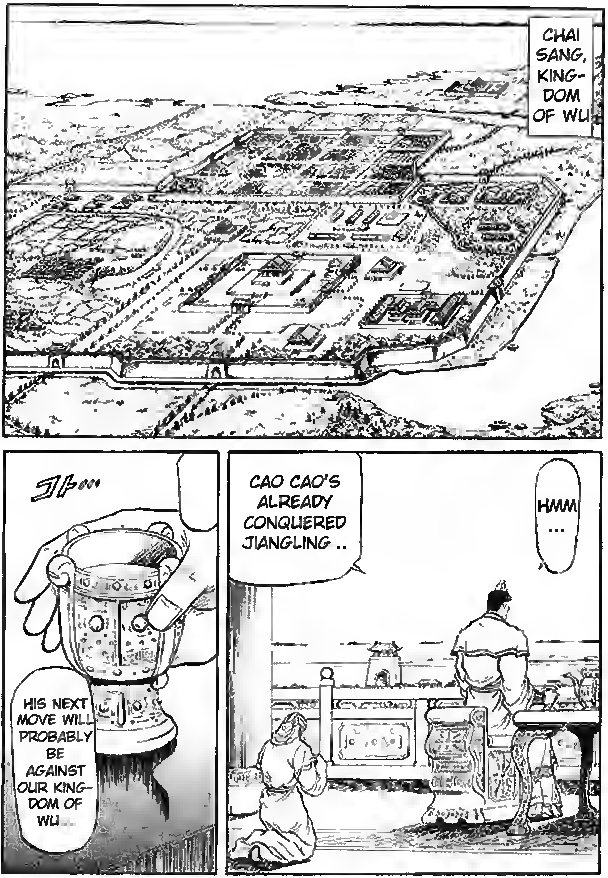
****

SORRY ABOUT THE LONG DELAY. ONE OF OUR EDITORS WENT MISSING, SO I HAD TO FILL IN WHEN APEMAN FINALLY DECIDED TO DECLARE HIM MIA. WE SHOULD BE STARTING TO RELEASE RYUU REGULARLY NOW.

- RAVENOUSREADER

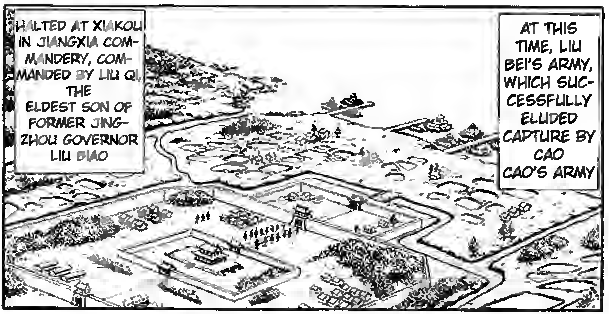
HTTP://JKP.MANGAREADERS.COM
#JKP@IRC.IRCHIGHWAY.NET

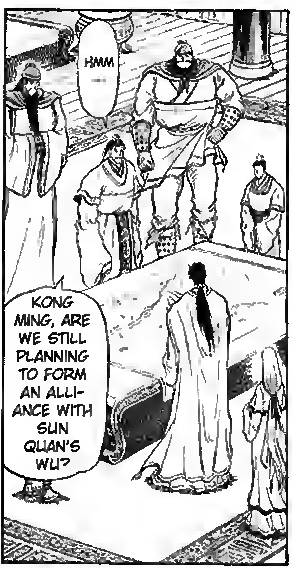
CHAPTER 29:
A DISTANT MEMORY

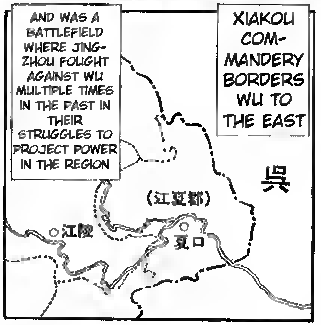

CHAI SANG, KING-DOM OF WU
HIS NEXT MOVE WILL PROBABLY BE AGAINST OUR KING-DOM OF WU...
CAO CAO'S ALREADY CONQUERED JIANGLING ..
HMM ...

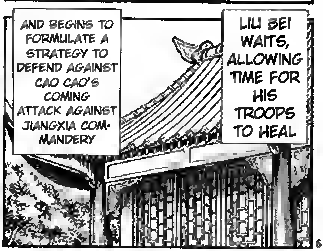
I THINK THE COURT'S MINISTERS...
MUST BE DEBATING ENDLESSLY RIGHT NOW AND ARE PROBABLY QUITE FRIGHTENED
LORD OF WU, SUN QUAN
3
YES, MY LORD!
BUT, MOST OF THE COURT WISHES TO BE ON FRIENDLY TERMS WITH CAO CAO
HMPH, IT'S NOT HARD TO IMAGINE WHY!
WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS?
AN ADVISOR TO SUN QUAN, LU SU
CAO CAO IS SOMEONE THAT
CAN'T BE TRUSTED!

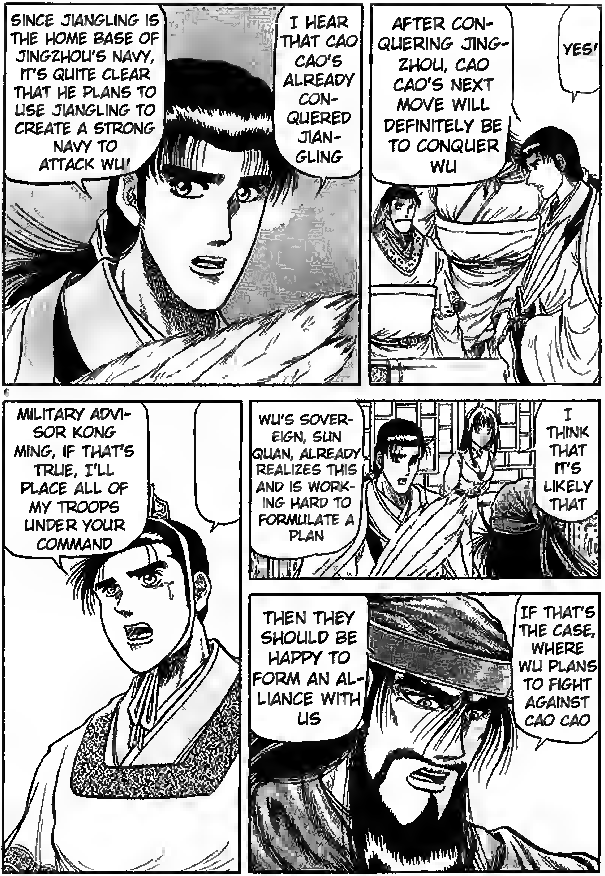
I HEAR THAT HIDDEN DRAGON AND DRAGON'S CHILD ARE BOTH IN HIS SERVICE...
XUAN DE ..
OUR BEST STRATEGY IS TO FIRST DEFEAT CAO CAO, THEN CONQUER THE PROVINCE OF JINGZHOU
THE MINISTERS ARE FOOLISH, WE SHOULD FORM AN ALLIANCE WITH LIU XUAN DE INSTEAD
WHAT THESE TWIN DRAGONS HAVE TO SAY ABOUT WU, IF OUR FORTUNE IS GOOD OR BAD!
LET ME SEE FOR MYSELF
I'D LIKE TO MEET THE TWIN DRAGONS, LU SU!
INTER-ESTING! IF THAT'S THE CASE
I'LL GO IMMEDI-ATELY TO XIAKOU TO MEET WITH LIU BEI!
YES!
YES

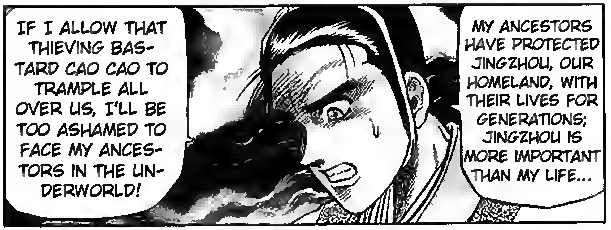

HALTED AT XIAKOU IN JIANGXIA COMMANDERY, COMMANDED BY LIU QI, THE ELDEST SON OF FORMER JINGZHOU GOVERNOR LIU BIAO
AT THIS TIME, LIU BEI'S ARMY, WHICH SUCCESSFULLY ELUDED CAPTURE BY CAO CAO'S ARMY


HMM
KONG MING, ARE WE STILL PLANNING TO FORM AN ALLIANCE WITH SUN QUAN'S WU?

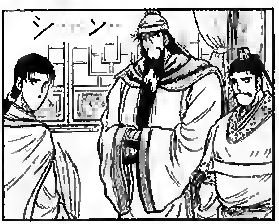

AND WAS A BATTLEFIELD WHERE JINGZHOU FOUGHT AGAINST WU MULTIPLE TIMES IN THE FAST IN THEIR STRUGGLES TO PROJECT POWER IN THE REGION
XIAKOU COMMANDERY BORDERS WU TO THE EAST
吳
(江夏郡)
江陵
夏口


AND BEGINS TO FORMULATE A STRATEGY TO DEFEND AGAINST CAO CAO'S COMING ATTACK AGAINST JIANGXIA COMMANDERY
LIU BEI WAITS, ALLOWING TIME FOR HIS TROOPS TO HEAL


SINCE JIANGLING IS THE HOME BASE OF JINGZHOU'S NAVY, IT'S QUITE CLEAR THAT HE PLANS TO USE JIANGLING TO CREATE A STRONG NAVY TO ATTACK WU!
I HEAR THAT CAO CAO'S ALREADY CONQUERED JIANGLING
AFTER CONQUERING JINGZHOU, CAO CAO'S NEXT MOVE WILL DEFINITELY BE TO CONQUER WU
YES!
MILITARY ADVISOR KONG MING, IF THAT'S TRUE, I'LL PLACE ALL OF MY TROOPS UNDER YOUR COMMAND
WU'S SOVEREIGN, SUN QUAN, ALREADY REALIZES THIS AND IS WORKING HARD TO FORMULATE A PLAN
I THINK THAT IT'S LIKELY THAT
THEN THEY SHOULD BE HAPPY TO FORM AN ALLIANCE WITH US
IF THAT'S THE CASE, WHERE WU PLANS TO FIGHT AGAINST CAO CAO


IF I ALLOW THAT THIEVING BASTARD CAO CAO TO TRAMPLE ALL OVER US, I'LL BE TOO ASHAMED TO FACE MY ANCESTORS IN THE UNDERWORLD!
MY ANCESTORS HAVE PROTECTED JINGZHOU, OUR HOMELAND, WITH THEIR LIVES FOR GENERATIONS; JINGZHOU IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN MY LIFE...

WE'LL DEFINITELY HELP YOU REGAIN JINGZHOU!
DON'T WORRY, LORD LIU QI


シ…ン…

FAME AS THE DRAGON'S CHILD, WILL COME IN HANDY!
WHEN THE TIME COMES, SHIRO'S..

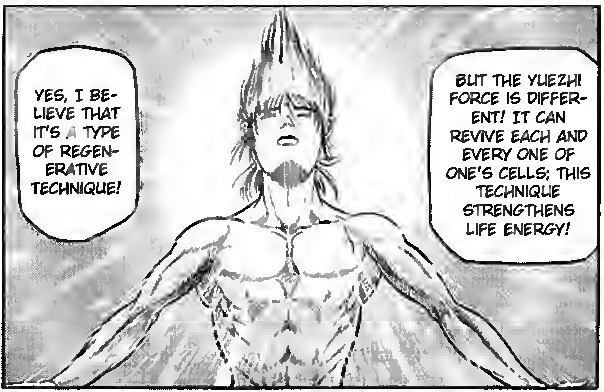
THANK YOU, LORD XUAN DE!

EVENTUALLY, WU WILL PROBABLY SEND SOMEONE TO CONTACT US ANYWAYS!
BESIDES, EVEN IF WE DON'T ACT ON OUR OWN

WHEN WE MEET WITH WU, WE'LL NEED TO DEMONSTRATE SHIRO'S MIGHT
BUT, IN ORDER TO GAIN WU'S COOPERATION
YES. DRAGON MILITARY ADVISOR'S FAME HAS PROBABLY SPREAD EVERYWHERE BY NOW!
WHAT?
I HAVE ONE CONCERN...
BUT
SHEESH...
AH, THAT REALLY WAS A FRIGHTENING RESULT!
OH WELL, LET'S JUST END TODAY'S MEETING RIGHT HERE!
I WISH HE WOULDN'T ACT SO CASUALLY IN MISSING THIS MEETING...

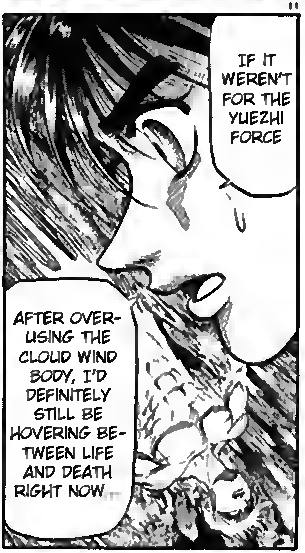
ザ"ザ"...
ザバ
SO THIS IS WHERE YOU WERE?

HAVE YOUR WOUNDS HEALED YET?
OH WELL, FORGET ABOUT IT!
AH... IS THAT SO!
SINCE YOU MISSED THE MEETING AGAIN!
KONG MING'S EXASPERATED AT YOU!
YOU MEAN THE TECHNIQUE THAT YOU LEARNED FROM LADY YUE YING?
YUE ZHI?
I JUST USED THE YUEZHI FORCE TO TEMPER MY BODY'S QI!
YEP!
YUEZHI WAS AN ANCIENT CHINESE NAME FOR A GROUP OF CENTRAL ASIAN PEOPLE, PROBABLY TOCHARIANS. SEE HTTP://EN.WIKIPEDIA.ORG/WIKI/YUEZHI
BECAUSE IT'S A HARSH ENERGY-DEPLETING TECHNIQUE
ALTHOUGH CLOUD WIND BODY ALLOWS ME TO EMIT ALL OF MY ENERGY PAST MY LIMIT, MY BODY CAN'T STAND IT
ALTHOUGH, THANKS TO HER, MY CLOUD WIND BODY'S BECOME STRONGER THAN BEFORE!
IT REALLY CAN'T BE CALLED "LEARN" YET!


YES, I BELIEVE THAT IT'S A TYPE OF REGENERATIVE TECHNIQUE!
BUT THE YUEZHI FORCE IS DIFFERENT! IT CAN REVIVE EACH AND EVERY ONE OF ONE'S CELLS; THIS TECHNIQUE STRENGTHENS LIFE ENERGY!

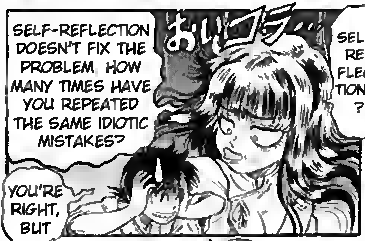
HOW COMPLICATED, I DON'T QUITE UNDERSTAND.

THAT'S WHY YOU FELT YOU COULD STOP CAO CAO'S ARMY AT HANLU BY YOURSELF, RIGHT?
BUT, SINCE YOU HAD THAT TYPE OF POWER

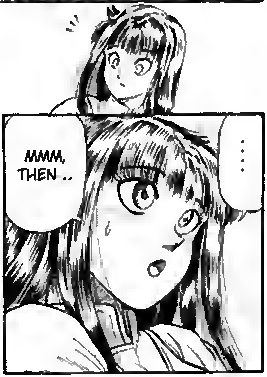

IF IT WEREN'T FOR THE YUEZHI FORCE
AFTER OVERUSING THE CLOUD WIND BODY, I'D DEFINITELY STILL BE HOVERING BETWEEN LIFE AND DEATH RIGHT NOW...

I WAS SCOLDED FIERCELY BY GENERAL ZHANG FEI AND OTHERS, AND I'VE ALREADY SELF-REFLECTED ON MY OWN ACTIONS...
IF I WASN'T IN SUCH A WEAKENED STATE, THEY WOULD HAVE BEATEN ME TO DEATH!
ONCE I WOKE UP AFTER THAT INCIDENT
CAN YOU REFRAIN FROM TALKING ABOUT THAT INCIDENT
LIAN HUA

RECOVERED! WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO TO GET YOU FORGIVE ME?
I'VE ALREADY...


SELF-REFLECTION DOESN'T FIX THE PROBLEM. HOW MANY TIMES HAVE YOU REPEATED THE SAME IDIOTIC MISTAKES?
YOU'RE RIGHT, BUT...
おいコラ...
SELF-REFLECTION...?

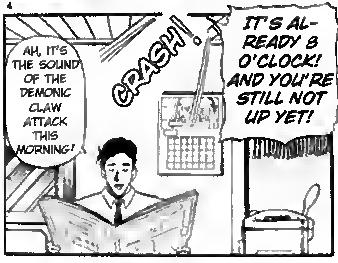
HUH?
TELL ME ABOUT DRAGON'S NATION!

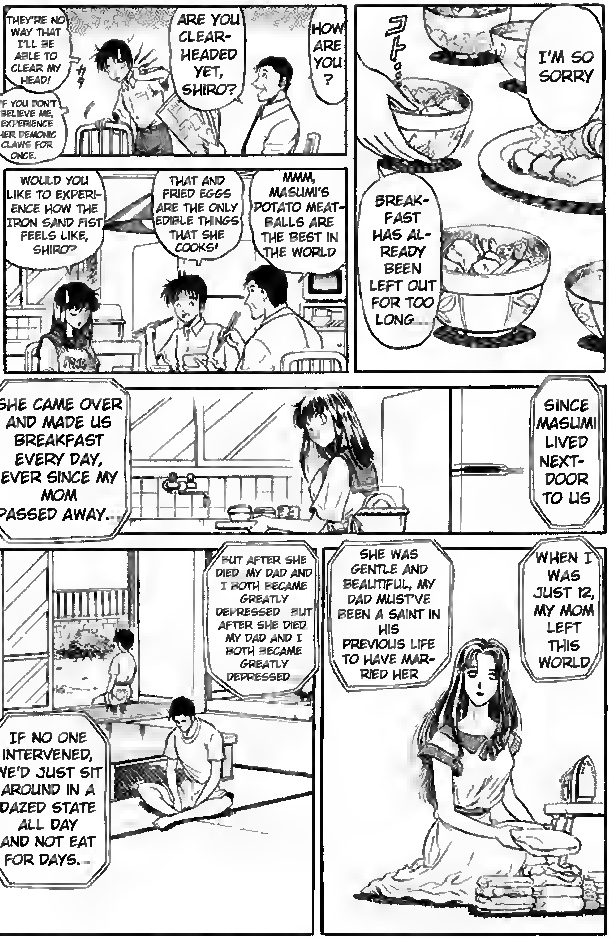

MMM, THEN..
.....

MY GOD, HOW DID IT TURN OUT LIKE THIS?
SO, I SUSPECT THAT YOUR GREATEST WEAK POINT IS DISCUSSING YOUR HOME NATION!
SO HURRY AND TELL ME!
OH HA HA
YOU HAVEN'T TALKED ABOUT YOUR HOME NATION, NOT EVEN TO LORD XUAN DE, RIGHT?
YOU'RE SUCH A MYSTERIOUS PERSON
IF I TOLD HER I CAN FROM 1700 YEARS IN THE FUTURE, SHE WOULDN'T BELIEVE ME ANYWAYS...
OH WELL! AS LONG AS I STAY AWAY FROM SENSITIVE TOPICS, AND JUST TALK ABOUT NON-IMPORTANT THINGS...
SIMPLY PUT,
IT'S A PEACEFUL NATION WITHOUT WARFARE!
AL-RIGHT!
IF YOU DON'T WANT TO SPEAK UP, I CAN ALSO POUND YOU 100 TIMES INSTEAD!
13
LET ME THINK...
THEN...

HURRY AND GET OUT OF BED, SHIRO!
YEAH, IT WAS QUIET AND PEACEFUL EVERY DAY..

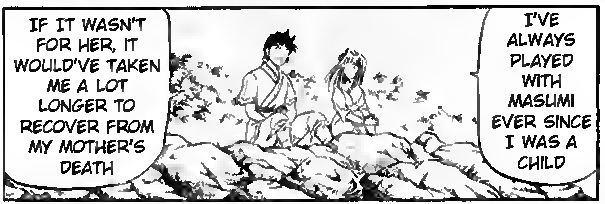
GOOD MORNING, MASUMI ...
AH ....
WAKE ME UP AGAIN AFTER 7:30!
LOS BE REASON
PONG
HONESTLY! IT'S ALWAYS LIKE THIS!
WHY CAN'T YOU GET UP BY YOURSELF?
PONG

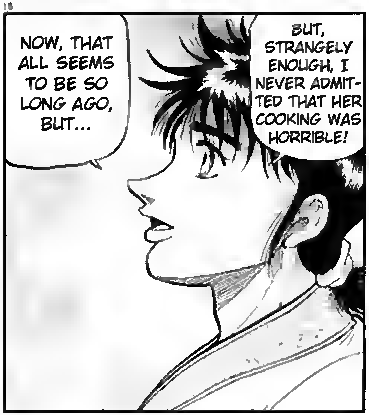

AH, IT'S THE SOUND OF THE DEMONIC CLAW ATTACK THIS MORNING!
CRASH!
IT'S ALREADY 8 O'CLOCK! AND YOU'RE STILL NOT UP YET!


THEY'RE NO WAY THAT I'LL BE ABLE TO CLEAR MY HEAD!
IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME, EXPERIENCE HER DEMONIC CLAWS FOR ONCE.
ARE YOU CLEAR-HEADED YET, SHIRO?
HOW ARE YOU?
I'M SO SORRY
BREAK-FAST HAS AL-READY BEEN LEFT OUT FOR TOO LONG...
WOULD YOU LIKE TO EXPERI-ENCE HOW THE IRON SAND FIST FEELS LIKE, SHIRO?
THAT AND FRIED EGGS ARE THE ONLY EDIBLE THINGS THAT SHE COOKS!
MMM, MASUMI'S POTATO MEAT-BALLS ARE THE BEST IN THE WORLD
SHE CAME OVER AND MADE US BREAKFAST EVERY DAY, EVER SINCE MY MOM PASSED AWAY..
SINCE MASUMI LIVED NEXT-DOOR TO US
IF NO ONE INTERVENED, WE'D JUST SIT AROUND IN A DAZED STATE ALL DAY AND NOT EAT FOR DAYS..
BUT AFTER SHE DIED MY DAD AND I BOTH BECAME GREATLY DEPRESSED BUT AFTER SHE DIED MY DAD AND I BOTH BECAME GREATLY DEPRESSED
SHE WAS GENTLE AND BEAUTIFUL, MY DAD MUST'VE BEEN A SAINT IN HIS PREVIOUS LIFE TO HAVE MAR-RIED HER
WHEN I WAS JUST 12, MY MOM LEFT THIS WORLD

BREAK FAST
IS READY! ♡

AROUND THAT TIME, MASUMI
STARTED COMING OVER EVERY MORNING!
SHIRO, IT'S TIME TO GET


IF IT WASN'T FOR HER, IT WOULD'VE TAKEN ME A LOT LONGER TO RECOVER FROM MY MOTHER'S DEATH
I'VE ALWAYS PLAYED WITH MASUMI EVER SINCE I WAS A CHILD


NOW, THAT ALL SEEMS TO BE SO LONG AGO, BUT...
BUT, STRANGELY ENOUGH, I NEVER ADMITTED THAT HER COOKING WAS HORRIBLE!

MASUMI'S COOKING WAS COMPLETELY UNBEARABLE
EVEN HER RICE WAS GOOEY ...
BUT, AT THE BEGINNING

THAT'S OKAY!
THAT'S
I ONLY TALKED ABOUT MY LIFESTYLE, AND NOT ABOUT THE DRAGON'S NATION!
AH, SORRY!
OR HOW MANY TROOPS IT HAS, I HAVE NO IDEA, BUT IT'S COMPLETELY USELESS ANY-WAYS!
TO ME, THE TYPE OF NATION THAT DRAGON'S NATION IS
17
I DIDN'T WANT TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR NATION, BUT ABOUT...
THAT'S RIGHT!
BUT, MASUMI'S ALWAYS BEEN WITH YOU IN THE PAST,
I THINK THAT IT'S THE SAME FOR MASUMI, RIGHT? ISN'T THAT NATURAL?

THEY WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN SEPARATED LIKE HOW THEY ARE TODAY!
IF IT WEREN'T FOR MY BROTHER AND ME

SHIRO AND MASUMI ORIGINALLY HAD NO INTEREST IN THIS WAR!
HMM.
THINK ABOUT IT CAREFULLY!

OH? SO THAT'S WHERE YOU ARE!

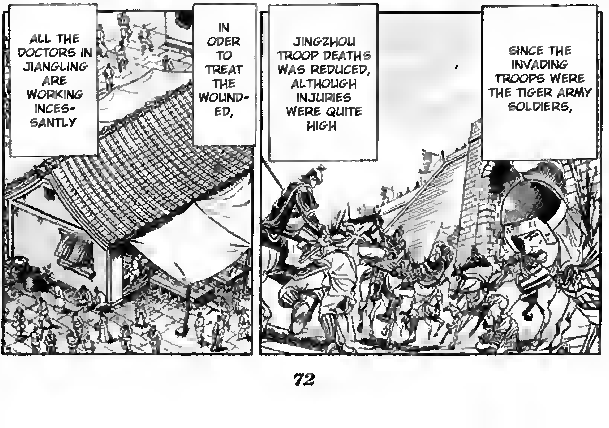
HAVE YOU RECONSIDERED COMING WITH ME TO CHANGSHA?
HEY, SHIRO
AH, SISTER!
!

THANKS, AI LIN!
SEE, I TOLD YOU!

CAO CAO'S NOT DUMB ENOUGH TO ATTACK CHANGSHA, LOSING TROOP STRENGTH BEFORE HIS MAJOR ATTACK ON WU!
DON'T BE SO NERVOUS! AFTER LEARNING FROM KONG MING THAT CAO CAO PLANS TO ATTACK WU
COULD IT BE THAT YOU YOURSELF DON'T WANT TO RETURN TO CHANGSHA?
GENERAL HUANG ZHONG, I ALREADY TOLD YOU THAT I WON'T GO!
THANK YOU FOR BEING SYMPATHETIC!
IT MUST BE ROUGH ON YOU!
HOW COULD I JUST LIGHTLY TOSS YOU GUYS AWAY, AND RETURN BY MYSELF!
MY GOD!
AND, AFTER HEARING ABOUT THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THIS BATTLE
19
EVENTS ARE SLOWLY STARTING TO FORK FROM HISTORY, WILL CHANGSHA REALLY BE ALRIGHT?
ACCORDING TO HISTORY, HUANG ZHONG SHOULDN'T APPEAR IN THIS BATTLE!
HE MAKES ME WORRIED...
YES ...

CAO CAO'S CURRENTLY FOCUSED ON ORGANIZING A NEW NAVY FROM JIANGLING'S NAVY AND CAO CAO'S TROOPS IN JINGZHOU
DEVELOPMENTS ELSEWHERE,

HOWEVER, AS THE MAIN JINGZHOU COMMANDER'S SURRENDERED TO CAO CAO, IT DIDN'T TAKE LONG TO SUCCESSFULLY TAKE THE CITY.
AMONGST THE JIANGLING TROOPS, MANY SOLDIERS ARE FIGHTING AGAINST CAO CAO'S ARMY


ALL THE DOCTORS IN JIANGLING ARE WORKING INCESSANTLY
IN ODER TO TREAT THE WOUNDED,
JINGZHOU TROOP DEATHS WAS REDUCED, ALTHOUGH INJURIES WERE QUITE HIGH
SINCE THE INVADING TROOPS WERE THE TIGER ARMY SOLDIERS,

SOMEONE, HURRY AND BRING ME SOME FEVER REDUCING MEDICINE!
MAKE WAY!
MAKE WAY!
PLEASE CHANGE HIS BANDAGES!
YES!

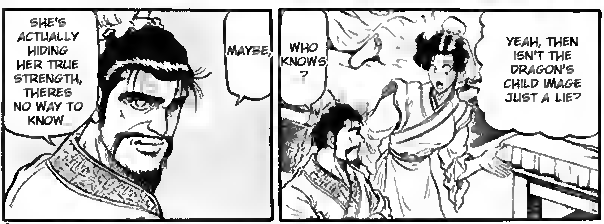
OK, I'LL BE RIGHT THERE!
DOCTOR, THAT PATIENT'S WOUND HAS BEGUN TO FESTER!

SHEESH!
THIS MANY PATIENTS, I CAN'T KEEP UP AT ALL!

AH,
MAY I HAVE A CUP OF WATER...?
NOT AT ALL!
IF YOU NEED ANYTHING ELSE, PLEASE ASK, THERE'S NO NEED TO BE POLITE!
OK, ALL DONE!
THANK YOU GODDESS!
I'LL GO GET IT RIGHT NOW!
OKAY, SURE!
GODDESS I'D LIKE SOME WATER AS WELL...
22
HMPH!
ALL THIS TALK ABOUT THE DRAGON SORCERESS!
UNBELIEVABLE...
WOW, SHE'S...
WHY IS AN ESTEEMED PERSON LIKE HER TAKING ARE OF THE ENEMY... ESPECIALLY SMALL FRY LIKE US?
ISN'T DRAGON GODDESS THE PRIME MINISTER'S SORCERESS?

ALTHOUGH HAVING MORE HELPING HANDS HAS BEEN QUITE USEFUL,
ISN'T IT TRUE THAT THESE INJURIES WERE CAUSED BY THE CAO ARMY?
YES!
YOU ARE QUITE RIGHT, LI LAN!
HOWEVER, IT IS QUIE POSSIBLE THAT THE DRAGON SORCERESS,
IS HERE JUST FOR THAT REASON!
23
HUH?
LI LAN, TO THE DRAGON SORCERESS, MAINTAINING HER GODDESS MYSTIQUE SHOULD BE THE MOST IMPORTANT CONSIDERATION,
SINCE THEY DON'T APEAR OFTEN AMONGST THE COMMON PEOPLE, THEIR SUDDEN PRESENCE WILL GIVE PEOPLE AN UNEXPLAINABLE AURA.

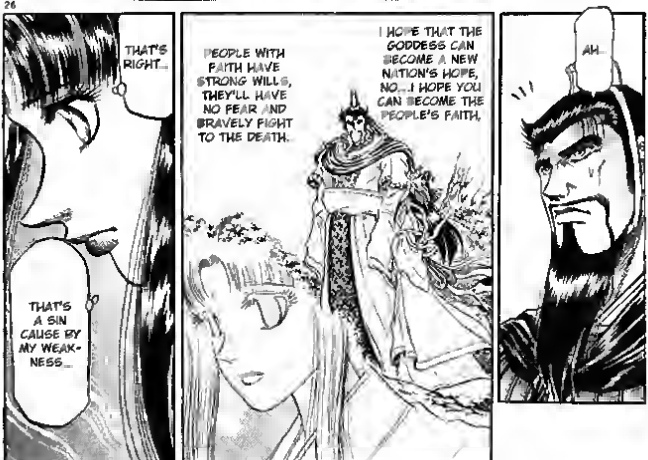
AH!
DOESN'T USE DRAGON'S POWER TO TREAT PATIENTS
ISN'T THAT QUITE STRANGE?
YET THAT DRAGON SORCERESS,


SHE'S ACTUALLY HIDING HER TRUE STRENGTH, THERES NO WAY TO KNOW
MAYBE,
WHO KNOWS ?
YEAH, THEN ISN'T THE DRAGON'S CHILD IMAGE JUST A LIE?

I'M BECOMING MORE AND MORE CURIOUS ABOUT HER!
IS THE DRAGON'S CHILD ACTUALLY A DIVINE SAINT?
SHE'S COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM HOW AN IMPOSTER DIETY WOULD ACT!
BUT, WE DO KNOW THAT SHE DROPPED HER MYSTIQUE, APPEARING HERSELF TO HELP US TREAT THE WOUNDED

SO THIS IS WHERE YOU ARE!
GOD-DESS
HUFF!
GEN-ERAL ZHANG LIAO!
PLEASE RETURN TO THE RESI-DENCE FOR OFFICIALS!
THE PRIME MINISTER'S CONCERNED FOR YOUR SAFETY!
SORRY GENERAL..
BUT I WISH TO REMAIN HERE FOR A BIT LONGER

MY CURRENT ACTIONS MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR WEI TO PROTECT ME,
I UNDERSTAND.
THE POSITION OF THE DRAGON SORCERESS
BUT,
YET TAKING THE ROLE OF SOMEONE WHO FORCES OTHERS INTO BATTLE, CAUSING SO MANY TO LOSE THEIR LIVES...
チ"ェ...
BUT, LIVING AS A PROTECTED GODDESS,


THAT'S RIGHT...
THAT'S A SIN CAUSE BY MY WEAKNESS...
PEOPLE WITH FAITH HAVE STRONG WILLS, THEY'LL HAVE NO FEAR AND BRAVELY FIGHT TO THE DEATH.
I HOPE THAT THE GODDESS CAN BECOME A NEW NATION'S HOPE, NO...I HOPE YOU CAN BECOME THE PEOPLE'S FAITH.
AH...

I NEVER THOUGHT I'D LET MYSELF BE USED AS A TOOL OF WAR, CAUSING DEATH TO INNOCENT CHILDREN, THUS COMMITTING IRRETRACTABLE MISTAKES.....
I WANTED TO PRESERVE LIVES IN THIS CHAOTIC WORLD, THE PERSON PEOPLE LOOKED TO FOR HELP WAS ME, THE DRAGON SORCERESS

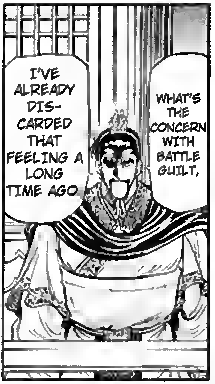
I DON'T CARE IF MY POSITION AS THE DRAGON GODDESS IS QUESTIONED OR DIMINISHED
THAT'S WHY I'M HELPING THE INJURED RIGHT NOW, SO I CAN CLEANSE MYSELF OF MY SINS WITH KIND ACTS

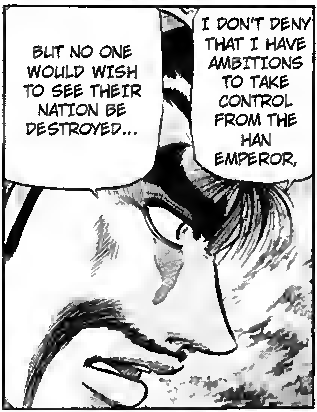
IF YOU'RE NOT SATISFIED, PLEASE CHOP OFF MY HEAD!
GENERAL, I'M NOT A TOOL OF WAR!

AH
PLEASE FORGIVE MY RUDENESS
GENERAL
AH
YES
RETURN TO THE PRIME MINISTER AND ASK HIM TO FORGIVE MY WILLFULLNESS
GENERAL
PLEASE,

WHAT A POWERFUL AURA!
IT EVEN CAUSED ME, A GENERAL WHO'S EXPERIENCED HUNDREDS OF BATTLES, TO FEEL FEAR INSTANTANEOUSLY...
29
OH...
THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO!
WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO LET HER DO AS SHE PLEASES!
THAT'S WHAT SHE SAID, HUH...
...

SO MANY PEASANTS' LIVES WERE LOST AT CHANG BAN, BECAUSE XUAN DE FELT TOO DEEPLY FOR THE PEOPLE!
IT'S ILLOGICAL TO MAINTAIN HUMAN EMOTIONS IN THIS ENVIRONMENT

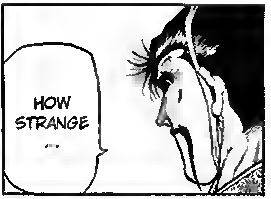

I'VE ALREADY DISCARDED THAT FEELING A LONG TIME AGO.
WHAT'S THE CONCERN WITH BATTLE GUILT,


BUT NO ONE WOULD WISH TO SEE THEIR NATION BE DESTROYED...
I DON'T DENY THAT I HAVE AMBITIONS TO TAKE CONTROL FROM THE HAN EMPEROR,

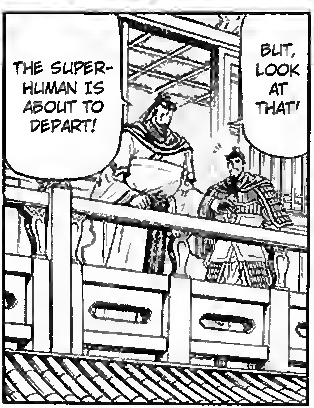
THE ONLY WAY TO GOVERN IN THIS CHAOTIC WORLD IS TO RELY ON YOUR MILITARY STRENGTH!
HE CAUSED MISFORTUNE TO THE PEOPLE! IT'S A CHAOTIC WORLD!

PRIME MINISTER ..
.....

THERE MUST STILL BE A BIT OF EMOTION LEFT IN MY HEART!
BUT, AS I HAVEN'T FORCE-FULLY STOPPED HER,


HOW STRANGE ...

CLEARLY VIOLATE MY PRIN-CIPLES...
THE GOD-DESS'S ACTIONS ...


THE SUPER-HUMAN IS ABOUT TO DEPART!
BUT, LOOK AT THAT!

SEEING THAT AS A TOKEN OF HUMAN-ITY...
HOW FRIGHT-ENING,

HAH ...

HUH?
CHANG SHA!
THAT BASTARD ZHONG DA CAME TO TELL ME THAT I HAD TO CONQUER CHANG SHA!
WHEN YOU TOLD ME THAT HUANG ZHONG PLANS TO FOLLOW THE DRAGON'S CHILD,

WHERE'S THE TIGER ARMY HEADED?
HMM

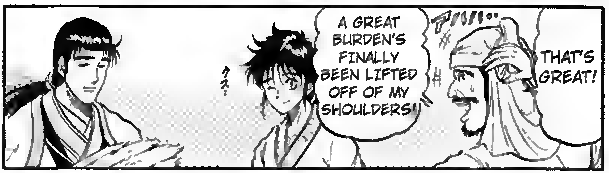
DO WE HAVE TROOPS TO SPARE, WITH OUR COMING BATTLE AGAINST WU?
YES, THIS IS TRUE ...
AS SOON AS I ATTACKED WU, MY ARMY WOULD BE SANDWICHED BY AN ATTACK FROM CHANGSHA AND THE YANGTZE RIVER
HE SAID THAT IF XUAN DE AND CHANG SHA WERE TO FORM A COALITION AGAINST ME,
JIANGXIA COMMANDERY
CAO CAO'S ARMY
LIU BEI'S WU ARMY
YANGTZE RIVER
CHANG SHA ARMY
CHANG SHA COMMANDERY
BUT THAT BASTARD SAID THAT HE NEEDED ONLY 500 MEN!
THAT'S RIGHT! I ALSO ARGUED THAT IT WOULD ONLY SAP MY TROOP STRENGTH.
WHAT IF HE SUCCEEDS WITH 500 MEN?
TRUE, BUT THIS GIVES US A CHANCE TO SEE HOW CAPABLE ZHONG DA IS,
500 MEN?
WHAT?
33
CHANGSHA IS THE STRONGHOLD THAT SECURES SOUTHERN JINGZHOU PROVINCE, YET WITH JUST 500 MEN ?
IT'S TOO RECK-LESS!

A MONSTER HUMAN!
THEN HE'D TRULY BE A PERSON WHO'S FULLY ELIMINATED HIS HUMANITY.

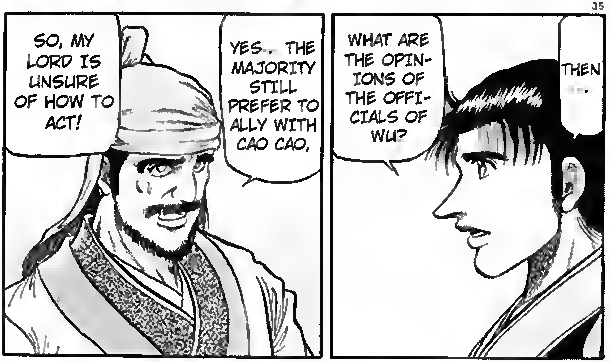
BUT IS CURRENTLY DISCUSSING ALLIANCE STRATEGIES TO COUNTER CAO CAO.
FORMALLY, HE'S COME TO OFFER CONDOLENCES FOR THE DEATH OF JINGZHOU'S LORD,

AT THAT TIME,
WU'S ADVISOR LU SU ARRIVES IN XIAKOU AND IS MEETING LIU BEI!

I UNDERSTAND, LORD LU SU!
WE'LL ACCEPT HIS EXCELLENCY SUN QUAN'S INVITATION!
I'D ...
ALSO LIKE TO GO!
AH!
THE DRAGON'S MILITARY ADVISOR'S ALSO WILLING TO OFFER ADVICE!


THAT'S GREAT!
A GREAT BURDEN'S FINALLY BEEN LIFTED OFF OF MY SHOULDERS!
?!?!

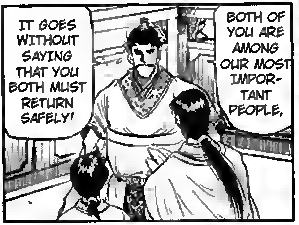
35


THEN...
WHAT ARE THE OPINIONS OF THE OFFICIALS OF WU?
YES. THE MAJORITY STILL PREFER TO ALLY WITH CAO CAO.
SO, MY LORD IS UNSURE OF HOW TO ACT!

THEN, I'LL BE OFF TO PREPARE THE SHIP
THANK YOU, SIR KONG MING, LORD XUAN DE!
I'VE HAD SOME EXPERIENCE DEALING WITH CAO CAO, I'LL LET HIM KNOW EVERYTHING THAT I'VE LEARNED!
IS THAT SO?
39
THEN THE STRATAGEM OF THE THREE KINGDOMS TO COUNTER WEI WILL NEVER OCCUR!
IF WU COOPERATES WITH CAO CAO,
HE TOLD US THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF HIS COURT AND THEIR DESIRE TO ALLY WITH CAO CAO.
IS THIS A JOKE? OR IS HIS CHARACTER REALLY SO NOBLE?
WE ALSO HOPE TO ALLY WITH WU...
NO MATTER HOW YOU SEE IT,

IT'S ALL UP TO YOU, KONG MING.
YES ...

AND NEGOTIATE UNTIL WE CONVINCE THEM TO FIGHT WITH US!
THUS, WE MUST GO TO WU.


IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT YOU BOTH MUST RETURN SAFELY!
BOTH OF YOU ARE AMONG OUR MOST IMPORTANT PEOPLE.

37

AND SCHEDULED TO TAKE A SHIP TO WU.
ON THAT DAY KONG MING AND SHIRO ARE WAITING FOR SOMEONE.

YES ...

HUH? NO... NOT AT ALL! I WOULDN'T DARE!
WHAT? DO YOU HAVE ANY OBJECTIONS?
HUH?
LIAN HUA'S COMING AS WELL?
!
BUT, YOUR ATTIRE,
ISN'T THAT A BIT INAPPROPRIATE? YOU'VE LOADED WITH WEAPONS!
IF SOMETHING HAPPENS, AND WE'RE NOT CARRYING WEAPONS, WHAT WILL WE USE TO FIGHT?
LISTEN UP, WU AND JINGZHOU ARE ENEMIES,
SURE
YUE YING
PISAGE

IS SHE STRONGER THAN HER HUSBAND?
WOW! SHE EASILY LIFTED LIAN HUA..
PLEASE DON'T ASK
!?
IT'S TIME TO CHANGE CLOTHES.
HEY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING, LADY YUE YING?
RIGHT NOW, OUR MOST IMPORTANT GOAL IS TO SECURE WU'S COOPERATION!
DON'T BE SO STUBBORN!
THAT'S TRUE...
I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY I'M NOT ALLOWED TO BRING WEAPONS!
THOSE LOOSE-FLOWING ROBES ARE REALLY QUITE UNSUITABLE FOR ME!
BUT...

I THINK YOU'RE AS BEAUTIFUL AS MASUMI!
YOU SHOULD HAVE SELF-CONFI-DENT!
THAT'S NOT TRUE AT ALL!
OH MY!
40
WHENEVER THAT IDIOT TALKS ABOUT MASUMI,
HIS EYES LIGHT UP, SO...
MAY I... WEAR THAT?
THEN...
.....
WHAT DO YOU WISH TO WEAR?

WHY IS LIAN HUA TAKING SO LONG?
WE HAVE TO PART SO QUICKLY, SHIRO!
I'M SO DISAP-POINTED! TO THINK THAT
FORGET IT! IF YOU GO, YOU'LL WRECK THE TALKS!
I THINK I SHOULD GO WITH YOU GUYS INSTEAD OF HER!
41
HUH ?
OLD FOOL... YOU STILL HAVEN'T GIVEN UP YET?
WHY DON'T YOU COME BACK TO CHANG SHA WITH ME?
SEEMS LIKE,
THEY'VE CAUGHT UP!
THAT'S OKAY

LIAN... LIAN HUA...?
HUH?
OH!
HUH?
THAT OUTFIT..!
WHY ARE YOU WEARING MASUMI'S CLOTHES?
WHY... WHY AM I?
SHOULDN'T HAVE WORN THIS OUTFIT!
DARN, I KNEW I..

OH!
IT'S DRAGON FAIRY LADY'S CLOTHES
CAN IT BE,
THAT LIAN HUA IS DOING THIS FOR MY SAKE
IT LOOKS GREAT ON YOU, LIAN HUA!
IT'S AS IF LADY MASUMI'S RETURNED, RIGHT SHIRO?
!!
LET'S GO, LIAN HUA!
THAT OUTFIT REALLY SUITS YOU!
SHIRO
ドゲ...

THAT CERTAIN SOMEONE
ENTERING MY ROOM AT WILL...
THAT BITCH!
DOING THAT TO THE CLOTHES OF THE DRAGON LADY THAT I...
?

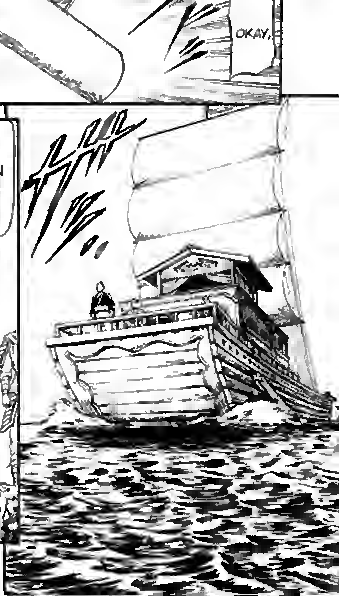
YOU'RE AMAZING. YOU MANAGED TO HOLD ONTO THAT OUTFIT UNTIL NOW, KEEPING IT IN GOOD SHAPE. AFTER ALL THAT WE WENT THROUGH...

IT'S WELL-TAKEN CARE OF, SINCE THIS OUTFIT IS PRECIOUS TO A CERTAIN SOMEONE!
HA HA.

START THE SHIP!
OKAY...

KONG MING, WE'RE ALL COUNTING ON YOU.
THIS NEGOTIATION WITH WU CONCERNS OUR FATE...

WU...



SO FAR, EVENTS HAVE STILL FOLLOWED TO HISTORY
WE'RE FINALLY AT WU!

AND YOU AS WELL, DRAGON'S CHILD!

IN ORDER TO RESCUE MASUMI AND DEFEAT THE CAO ARMY, WITHOUT A DOUBT,
EVERYTHING DEPENDS ON SUCCESS IN ALLYING WITH WU ..!

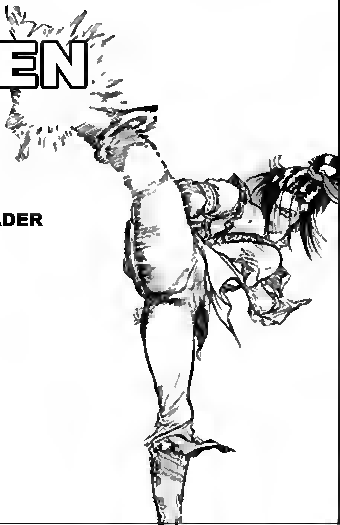
第29話　完

HI EVERYONE,

THESE TWO CHAPTERS OF RYUURODEN WERE A PAIN TO FINISH, SINCE THERE ARE NO MORE EDITORS ON RYUURODEN, ALL THE JKP EDITORS GATHERED TO CLEAN, TEXT AND MAKE A RELEASE OF THOSE 100+ PAGES. THANKS TO GREENERY, SAMBAZ, KESS, CORIOLIS AND LEVIN FOR THEIR EFFORTS IN HELPING ME MAKE IT HAPPEN. I'LL ALSO USE THE OPPORTUNITY TO TELL YOU GUYS THIS: IF YOU WANT TO SEE MORE REGULAR RELEASES OF RYUURODEN, THEN JOIN JKP AS AN EDITOR. THE RAWS ARE EASY TO DEAL WITH AND YOU'LL BE TAUGHT ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT EDITING THEM. SO YOU JUST HAVE TO GET PHOTOSHOP 7 OR HIGHER AND EMAIL ME AT KAKOKU2000@YAHOO.FR AFTER INSTALLING IT.

-APEMAN

RYUURODEN



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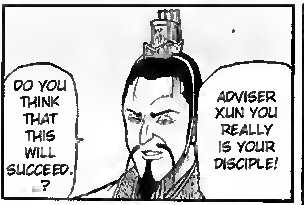
CHAPTER 30:
QUIET OPENING BATTLE

CITY OF JIAN-GLING ...
2
THE DAY BEFORE KONG MING'S EXPEDITION TO WU..
CAO CAO ASSEMBLES HIS MILITARY ADVISERS AND IS DISCUSSING THE PROPER STRATEGY IN INVADING THEM!
THE KEY ISSUE IS .
AN ALLIANCE BETWEEN XIA KOU'S XUAN DE AND WU'S SUN QUAN!

HOW ABOUT IT, XUN YU?
YES ...
ON THE BASIS OF TROOP STRENGTH, WE HAVE A DEFINITIVE ADVANTAGE...
BUT WU IS PROTECTED BY THE YANGTZE RIVER, SO THIS BATTLE WILL A BE NAVAL BATTLE. WHEN IT COMES TO NAVAL BATTLES, WE'LL BE AT A DISADVANTAGE!
NOT ONLY THAT, BUT THE LEADER OF WU'S NAVY IS THE GREAT GENERAL, ZHOU YU.
I HEAR THAT HE'S A MILITARY STRATEGIST ON PAR WITH KONG MING. IF HE WERE TO ALLY WITH KONG MING, IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY DISADVANTAGEOUS TO OUR ARMY.
HMM ...
ONCE THE BATTLE STARTS, WE WON'T BE ABLE TO ESCAPE HEAVY ATTRITION...!
IF THAT'S THE CASE ...
IT'S BETTER NOT TO COMMENCE BATTLE...

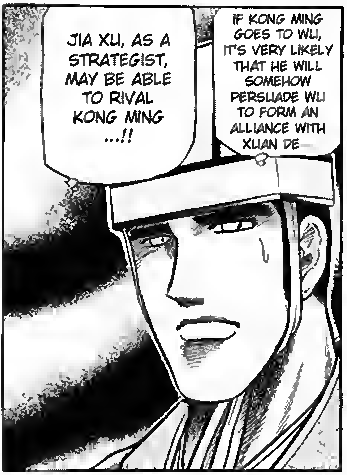
I BELIEVE THAT WU MUST FEEL TREMENDOUS PRESSURE FROM OUR MASSIVE TROOP'S STRENGTH!
SO, WHY DON'T WE DISPATCH A MESSENGER WITH A LETTER TO INFORM WU THAT WE GIVE UP.
CAO CAO MILITARY ADVISOR XUN YOU
THEN, WE ALLY WITH WU TO ATTACK SHU
AS LONG AS WE BAIT WU BY OFFERING TO DIVIDE UP JINGZHOU BETWEEN WEI AND WU, SUN QUAN SHOULD HAPPILY GO ALONG WITH THIS PLAN.
YES
IF WE TEMPORARILY ALLY WITH WU, FINISH OFF SHU, THEN TAKE CARE OF WU, THAT WILL BE MUCH EASIER!
IT'S A PERFECT PLAN, XUN YOU!
FINE, I'LL SEND A COURIER TO WU IMMEDIATELY!
...


ADVISER XUN YOU REALLY IS YOUR DISCIPLE!
DO YOU THINK THAT THIS WILL SUCCEED...?

XUN YU

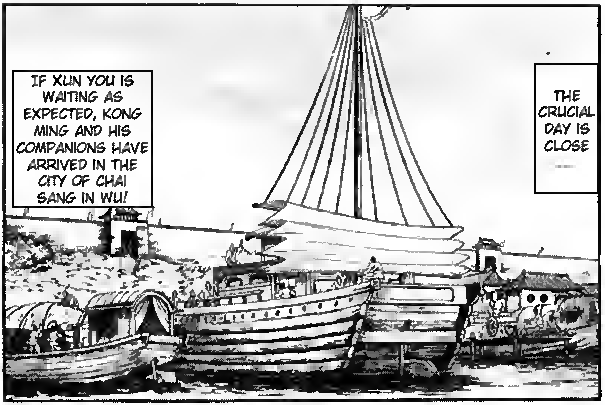
JIA XU
COULD IT BE THAT YOU'RE NOT SATISFIED SOMEHOW...?

I'M SURE YOU ALSO FEEL THIS INTUITIVELY!


JIA XU, AS A STRATEGIST, MAY BE ABLE TO RIVAL KONG MING ...!!
IF KONG MING GOES TO WU, IT'S VERY LIKELY THAT HE WILL SOMEHOW PERSUADE WU TO FORM AN ALLIANCE WITH XUAN DE

CURRENTLY, WE CAN ONLY PRAY THAT XUN YOU'S STRATEGY WILL GO SMOOTHLY AND SUCCEED!
WHATEVER KONG MING COMES UP WITH

APPARENTLY, JIA XU PERCEIVED THIS AS WELL.


IF XUN YOU IS WAITING AS EXPECTED, KONG MING AND HIS COMPANIONS HAVE ARRIVED IN THE CITY OF CHAI SANG IN WU!
THE CRUCIAL DAY IS CLOSE

THE BOATS CAN COME SO CLOSE TO THE PERIMETER OF THE CITY!
THIS IS GREAT...!

KONG MING, LET ME TAKE EVERY-ONE OUT ON THE CARRIAGE FIRST!
THANK YOU!

EVERYONE THAT COMES TO THIS CITY USE THE WATERWAYS AS TRANSPORT.
HA HA HA, FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF WU, WATERWAYS ARE THE SAME AS HIGHWAYS!

WOW!
♡
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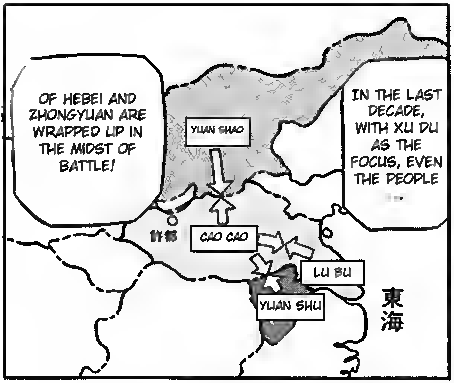
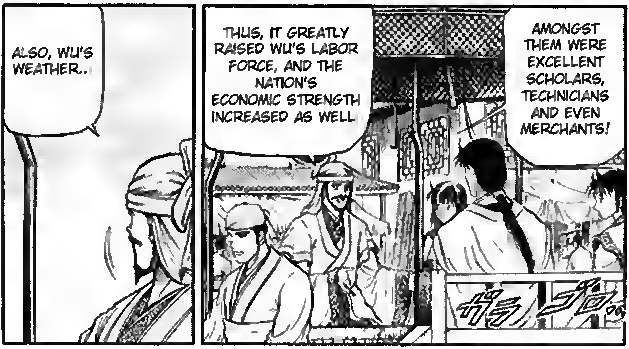
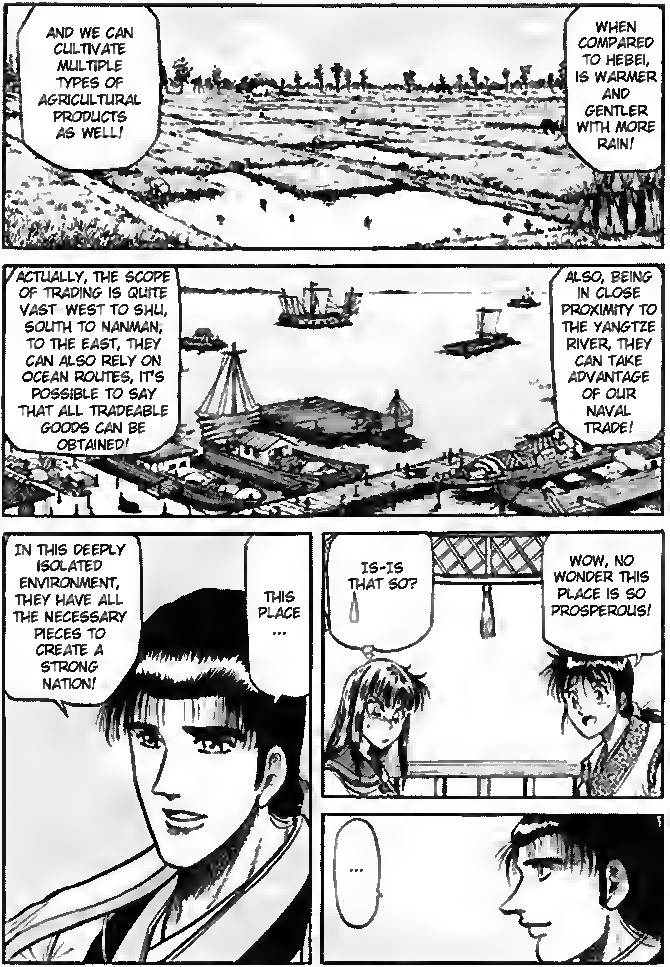
THESE COPPER MIRRORS ARE THE SAME AS THE ONES USED IN THE PALACE, LADIES, BUY ONE!
WOW!
OKAY!
EVERYONE LOOK HERE. TODAY'S FISH IS FRESHEST AND OF THE HIGHEST QUALITY!
WHAT A LIVELY CITY!
HA HA HA !!
HUH ?!
?!
WU IS QUITE PROS-PEROUS RIGHT NOW!
BUT IT'S REALLY SUCH A JOKE, AS IT'S ALL DUE TO THE CHAOS OF THE WAR!
ARE YOU REFER-RING TO THE REF-UGEES?
FLEEING FROM THE BATTLE ZONES OF HEBEI AND ZHONGYU AN?


OF HEBEI AND ZHONGYUAN ARE WRAPPED UP IN THE MIDST OF BATTLE!
IN THE LAST DECADE, WITH XU DU AS THE FOCUS, EVEN THE PEOPLE ...
YUAN SHAO
許都
CAO CAO
LU BU
YUAN SHU
東海

EVER SINCE DONG ZHUO, MANY HEROS HAVE FOUGHT TO BECOME THE SUPREME RULER..
YES ..

IN ORDER TO DISTANCE THEMSELVES FROM THE WAR, MANY PEOPLE TOOK THEIR ENTIRE FAMILIES AND TRAVELLED SOUTH TO WU AND JINGZHOU!
NOT ONLY DOES WARFARE STEAL AWAY WEALTH FROM THE PEOPLE, BUT EVEN MORESO, THEIR LIVES AS WELL


ALSO, WU'S WEATHER..
THUS, IT GREATLY RAISED WU'S LABOR FORCE, AND THE NATION'S ECONOMIC STRENGTH INCREASED AS WELL
AMONGST THEM WERE EXCELLENT SCHOLARS, TECHNICIANS AND EVEN MERCHANTS!


AND WE CAN CULTIVATE MULTIPLE TYPES OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AS WELL!
WHEN COMPARED TO HEBEI, IS WARMER AND GENTLER WITH MORE RAIN!
ACTUALLY, THE SCOPE OF TRADING IS QUITE VAST. WEST TO SHU, SOUTH TO NANMAN, TO THE EAST, THEY CAN ALSO RELY ON OCEAN ROUTES, IT'S POSSIBLE TO SAY THAT ALL TRADEABLE GOODS CAN BE OBTAINED!
ALSO, BEING IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO THE YANGTZE RIVER, THEY CAN TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR NAVAL TRADE!
IN THIS DEEPLY ISOLATED ENVIRONMENT, THEY HAVE ALL THE NECESSARY PIECES TO CREATE A STRONG NATION!
THIS PLACE ...
IS-IS THAT SO?
WOW, NO WONDER THIS PLACE IS SO PROSPEROUS!
...

BECAUSE CAO CAO MUST HAVE REALIZED THIS AS WELL, THAT'S WHY HE GAZED GREEDILY AT WU, AND DESIRED TO GRAB IT AS HIS OWN
YES ..
HUH ?!
ARE YOU THE WINE STORE OWNER ?!
THIS MATTER DOESN'T CONCERN YOU!
WHO ARE THE GUESTS ON THE CARRIAGE?
HEY, OFFICER
!
DON'T BE SO COLD!
NEXT TIME, I'LL TREAT YOU TO EXCELLENT AGED WINE!
ALRIGHT !
I'LL TELL YOU THEN
SURE, SURE!

THE PASSENGERS ON THAT CARRIAGE INCLUDE HIDDEN DRAGON AND THE DRAGON ADVISER?
HEY! SHH!
WHA ... AT ??
HUH ?!
IS THAT THE MILITARY STRATEGIST KONG MING WHO DEFEATED CAO CAO'S SOOOO STRONG ARMY WITH JUST SOOO MEN?
WHAT? HIDDEN DRAGON?
NO WAY! HE'S SO SMALL, COULD HE REALLY DEFEAT THE FIERCE GENERAL XU CHU?
THAT YOUNG MAN MUST BE THE DRAGON ADVISER!
SO, THAT GIRL WEARING THE STRANGE UNIFORM IS DRAGON GIRL?
THAT IS
OH NO! I KNEW THIS WOULD HAPPEN !!!

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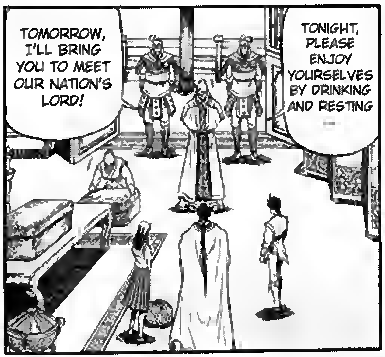
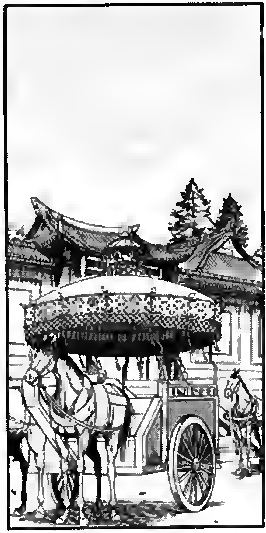
ワイ
HEY, PLEASE MOVE OVER, I CAN'T SEE!
DRAGON ADVISER, PLEASE LOOK THIS WAY!
WOW! HE'S STILL SO YOUNG, SO CUTE!
I ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT THE DRAGON ADVISER WAS A REALLY TALL AND STRONG MAN!
ギャ
ギャ
EVERYONE, CLEAR OUT! HOW'S THE CARRIAGE SUPPOSED TO MOVE LIKE THIS?
HEY HEY HEY, MOVE OUT OF THE WAY!
QUICKLY BECAME LEGENDARY, AND HAS SPREAD TO THE PEOPLE OF WU!
THAT'S RIGHT! THE DRAGON'S HEROIC DEEDS
AH HA HA HA!
YOU'RE QUITE POPULAR WITH THE YOUNG LADIES!
WHY'S HIS FACE SO RED!?
HMPH!

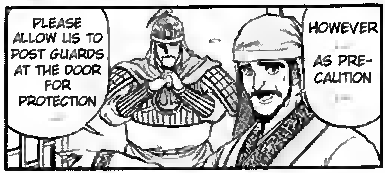
THAT WE ARE ABLE TO HAVE THIS IMPORTANT MEETING WITH WU!
AND IT'S THANKS TO THAT

RIGHT, YOU'VE HIT THE MARK!
IT'S JUST LIKE A MODERN DRAGON GOD LEGEND!

MY GOD! THAT'S JUST A SUPER-STITION!


TOMORROW, I'LL BRING YOU TO MEET OUR NATION'S LORD!
TONIGHT, PLEASE ENJOY YOURSELVES BY DRINKING AND RESTING




PLEASE ALLOW US TO POST GUARDS AT THE DOOR FOR PROTECTION
HOWEVER AS PRE-CAUTION

I WISH TO GRATEFULLY THANK YOU FOR YOUR METICULOUS CARE!
THANK YOU, LU SU!
PLEASE DON'T BE COURTEOUS, AND INSTRUCT THEM AS YOU PLEASE!
IF YOU WISH TO STEP OUTSIDE, THEY WILL GUIDE YOUR WAY ..
I'LL TAKE MY LEAVE!
THEN ...
PROTECTION? LOOKS MORE LIKE SHADOWING TO ME!
HMF ...!
I'M NOT INTERESTED IN GOING OUT BUT I MIGHT AS WELL CHANGE INTO WOMAN'S CLOTHING
I KNOW, EARLIER, I WAS MISTAKEN FOR THE DRAGON GIRL!
BUT, YOUR CURRENT OUTFIT ATTRACTS TOO MUCH ATTENTION.
I THINK, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF SHIRO AND I, EVERYONE ELSE SHOULD BE ABLE TO MOVE ABOUT FREELY!
LADY YUE YING SPECIALLY PREPARED THIS FOR ME

ン…ン…

FROZEN BY WHAT THEY SEE BEFORE THEIR EYES ARE SHOCKED INTO SPEECHLESSNESS!

ZZ…

AI-LIN!!

UH?
IS IT MORNING ALREADY?!
MM…
AI…
AI…

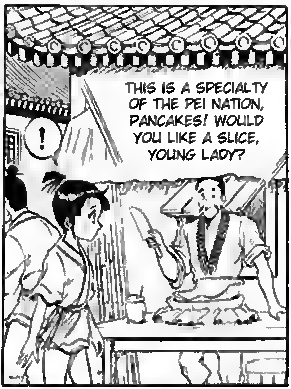
I'VE REALLY HAD ENOUGH OF YOU!
HOW DARE YOU HIDE AMONGST THE LUGGAGE AND FOLLOW ALONG!
THIS MATTER CAN'T BE RESOLVED BY A SIMPLE APOLOGY!
DID YOU THINK WE CAME HERE TO WU TO HAVE FUN?
LIAN HUA ...
I THINK THAT'S ENOUGH ...
BUT, ON THIS MISSION ...
IT'S NOT REALLY SAFE!
IN THIS CHAOTIC WORLD ...
NO MATTER WHERE YOU GO, YOUR SAFETY CAN'T BE GUARANTEED!

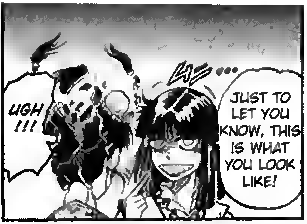
AH ...!
WE'RE HER CLOSEST FAMILY!
FROM THE ORPHANED AI LIN'S POINT OF VIEW... RIGHT NOW...
I'M SORRY...
I WANTED TO STAY WITH DRAGON BROTHER AND EVERY-ONE ELSE, THAT'S WHY I...
UMM...!
IT'S OKAY! NONE OF US ARE REALLY ANGRY AT YOU..
THAT'S RIGHT!
KONG KONG MING!
LIAN HUA WAS ONLY ACTING ANGRY TOWARDS YOU BECAUSE SHE WAS WORRIED ABOUT YOU!

LET'S GO STROLLING AROUND THE STREETS!
YEP, SINCE IT'S RARE FOR US TO COME TO WU...
GAH!
REALLY ?!
!!!
I REALLY DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH HER!
HMPH!
DON'T WORRY, I HAVE A GREAT PLAN!
IT'S OKAY AS LONG AS THEY DON'T REALIZE THAT I'M THE DRAGON CHILD!
?
DID YOU FORGET THE GREAT DISTURBANCE THAT YOU CAUSED EARLIER ON THE STREETS?
ARE YOU MAD, SHIRO?

WOW ...!
HEY, LOOK!
THAT'S RIGHT!
THEY'RE LIKE TWO BEAUTIFUL FAIRY LADIES!
THANK YOU! HOWEVER, I'M NOT INTERESTED, MAYBE NEXT TIME!
HEY, LADY, I'LL SELL YOU THIS FISH FOR A BIT CHEAPER!
AH!

THAT'S RIGHT! I'VE NEVER SEEN THEM BEFORE!
WHEN DID OUR CITY OF CHAI SANG PRODUCE SO MANY BEAUTIFUL LADIES?
GRAND-PA!
IF ONLY I WERE ABOUT 10 YEARS YOUNGER ...!
DO YOU KNOW HOW MUCH EFFORT I SPENT TO MAKE THIS FACE?
AH, THAT'S TOO MUCH!
SO IT WAS CROSS DRESSING THAT YOU
WHAT A PLAN!
THEN CHANGING THE SKELETAL MUSCLES INTO A FEMALE'S! THIS IS A VERY DIFFICULT SECRET TECHNIQUE!
CHANGING THEM TO MAKE MYSELF LIKE THIS ...
YES, YES! NOW STOP THAT!
THERE ARE MANY SMALL MUSCLES KNOWN AS FACIAL EXPRESSION MUSCLES ON THE HUMAN FACE!
THE CLOUD AND WIND BODY TECHNIQUE CAN MANIPULATE THESE MUSCLES!


THIS IS A SPECIALTY OF THE PEI NATION, PANCAKES! WOULD YOU LIKE A SLICE, YOUNG LADY?
!


UGH !!!
JUST TO LET YOU KNOW, THIS IS WHAT YOU LOOK LIKE!

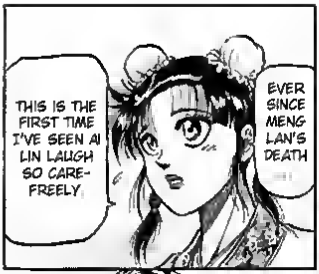
HEY

NOT BAD!

BETTER!

HEY, CAN WE GO LOOK AT THAT? LET'S GO!

スポン


EVER SINCE MENG LAN'S DEATH
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN AI LIN LAUGH SO CARE-FREELY

YEAH
THAT'S GREAT .. IT LOOKS LIKE SHE'S HAVING FUN

UMM ...
SHIRO ...

IF AI LIN CAN TEMPORARILY FORGET ABOUT MENG LAN'S DEATH, I'M WILLING TO DO ANYTHING, EVEN DRESS AS A GIRL
EVEN IF IT'S JUST FOR A BRIEF INSTANT

AH!

COME ON!
HEY ...!

AH...!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS BRAT!?
THAT HURTS...
OH, NO!
USUALLY, I WOULD'VE TAUGHT THAT DEAD BRAT A LESSON BY NOW!
THIS!
OH!
SORRY!
SOME DRINKS, I MIGHT OVER-LOOK IT!
BUT, IF YOU TWO WOULD COME ALONG FOR...
SHE'S STILL YOUNG AND DOESN'T KNOW ANYTHING, SO...
GREAT GENTLE-MEN, PLEASE FORGIVE HER!

THAT YOUNG LADY'S IN TROUBLE! I DON'T KNOW WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO HER!
HEY, AREN'T THEY ROGUES FROM SHAN YUE?
!
!
ME ?!
HUH !?
!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
AH ...
YOU CAN ELIMINATE THESE SMALL FRY IN 2 OR 3 MOVES, RIGHT?
DO YOU WANT ME TO PEEL YOUR SKIN FIRST, THEN YOUR BONES?
I'LL LEAVE THE SAVAGERY UP TO YOU!
BUT, I'M A TENDER YOUNG GIRL .
ナホホオ
HOW DARING, FOR THAT EVIL CLAN'S DISCIPLES TO STEP FOOT INSIDE THIS CITY!
HMF!
JUST COME THIS WAY!
WHAT WAS THAT ?!

RELEASE THAT MAIDEN!
HOW DARE YOU UNLEASH SUCH WILDNESS IN FRONT OF ME!
WAIT!
!?
SINCE THERE AREN'T TOO MANY OPPONENTS, SHE SHOULD BE ABLE TO HANDLE IT BY HERSELF!
BUT WELL ...
ALTHOUGH SHE TALKS TOUGH, SHE'S ALSO JUST A WOMAN!
OH!
?
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH HER...

!!
OH, GREAT LADY!
DON'T SPEAK SO HARSHLY, COME BY MY SIDE!
ポン
27
ARGH !!!
W... WHAT?!

IF YOU REALLY CONSIDER YOURSELF TO BE AN EVIL CLAN, THEN SHOWN ME SOME SKILLS!
YOU'LL FALL IN JUST ONE ATTACK ?!
SO LAME ...
AH!
SHE'S FOR REAL!
CK!
SHE'S LOOKING DOWN ON US!

ドオ…
UGH!
WOMAN! IF YOU STILL MESS AROUND, I'LL TEAR OFF HER NECK!
THE GAME'S OVER!
!!
SHUT UP! DRESSED UP LIKE A WOMAN, YOU'RE MAKING ME MORE AND MORE PISSED OFF!
SO VIOLENT…!
WOW, SHE'S SO SCARY, JUST LIKE YOU…
?!
AH?!

YOU SCUM!
ARGH ...!
WHY AM I ALWAYS DRAWN INTO THESE CONFLICTS?
REALLY ...

ARGH!
AH!
WHAT?!
WHA...
HE ACTUALLY FELL BACK-WARDS!
WHAT HAPPENED?!
AND IT WAS DONE WITH BOTH ARMS BEHIND HER! I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
THAT WAS AN ENERGY RELEASE MOVE!

!!
TRYING TO ESCAPE BY YOURSELF? THAT'S JUST WISHFUL THINKING!
WHAT ARE THESE WOMEN?
AGH!
SORRY I'M NOT REALLY A WOMAN!
GUH !!!
AH!
HM?!

JUST HINDER MY MOVES TOO MUCH!
WOMEN'S CLOTHING
スタッ
ARE THESE WOMEN DIVINE SAINTS?
AMAZING!
NOT GOOD!
NOT
IT'S OFFICIALS! OFFICIALS ARE COMING!
THOSE THREE MAIDENS ARE SO HEROIC!
ドヨ…
WOA!
WHAT'S THE COMMOTION OVER THERE?
MAKE WAY! MAKE WAY!

WHERE ARE THE OFFENDING CULPRITS?
HEY!
ドドドド…
AH!
THEY'RE THE ONES LYING ON THE GROUND!
LORD SUN QUAN'S YOUNGER SISTER?
ゲッ…
THEY SAID PRINCESS, CAN IT ACTUALLY BE...
AND GENERAL GAN NING AS WELL!
WE PAY OUR RESPECTS TO THE PRINCESS!
I MUST HAVE THEM AS MY LADIES-IN-WAITING BY ALL MEANS!
I REALLY ADMIRE THEIR MARTIAL ARTS SKILL!
I WANT TO KNOW WHERE THOSE MAIDENS CAME FROM!
HEY, LU XUN!

TRANSLATOR'S NOTE: GAN NING WAS A FAMOUS PIRATE TURNED ADMIRAL/GENERAL FOR WU.
TRANSLATOR'S NOTE: LU XUN - A FAMOUS GENERAL FOR WU THAT LATER CHANGED HIS NAME TO LU YI

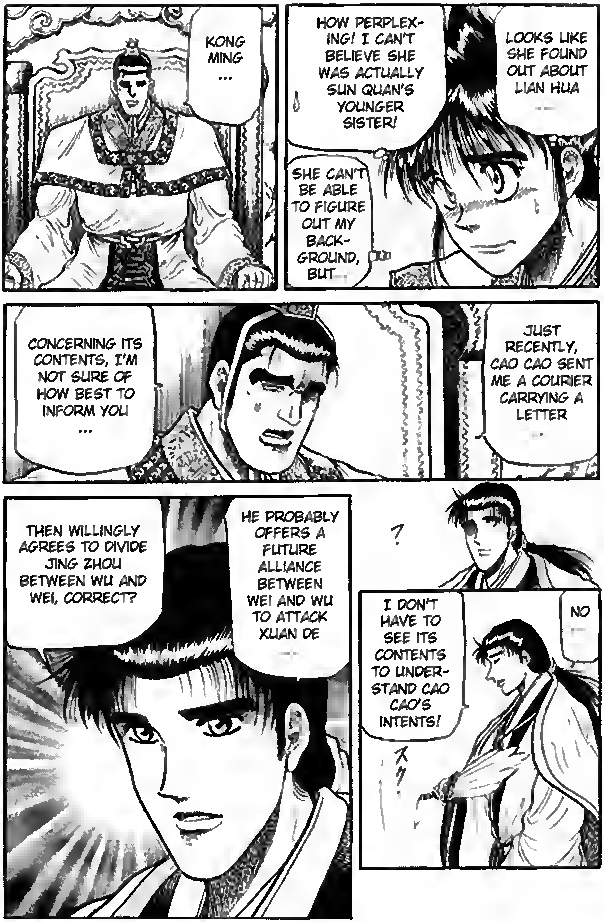
I'LL LEAVE IT TO YOU...
THE PRINCESS HAS REVERTED TO HER OLD BAD HABIT AGAIN!
STILL, I DON'T THINK THEY CAME TO SERVE US...
BECAUSE THAT WAS THE DRAGON ADVISER!
YOU'RE TELLING ME THAT ONE OF THE FEMALES WAS THE DRAGON ADVISER?
THE DRAGON ?!
SHE'S THE SAME AGE AS THE DRAGON'S CHILD AND KNOWS "ENERGY RELEASE", A MAN DISGUISED AS A WOMAN. CONCLUDING THAT HE'S THE DRAGON ADVISER IS QUITE REASONABLE, RIGHT?
HE WASN'T A FEMALE, THOUGH IT WAS BARELY DISCERNABLE, THAT BOWL HAIRED MAIDEN HAD AN ADAM'S APPLE,
WE DON'T HAVE TO SEARCH FOR THEM, COME TOMORROW,
THEY WILL PRESENT THEMSELVES IN FRONT OF THE PRINCESS!

HE'S ABLE TO PERCEIVE AN OPPONENT'S BACKGROUND IN SUCH A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME.
HMF...
EVEN THOUGH HE'S JUST A MINOR OFFICIAL RIGHT NOW, I BELIEVE HE'LL BECOME A PILLAR FOR STRENGTH FOR WU IN THE FUTURE!
HIS INSIGHT IS FRIGHTENING!
35

KONG MING, SHIRO AND LIAN HUA PRESENT THEMSELVES IN FRONT OF SUN QUAN!
THE NEXT DAY

KONG MING FOR UNDERTAKING THE LONG AND DIFFICULT JOURNEY TO CHAI SANG
I FEEL HEAVILY INDEBTED TO...
HEARING YOUR WORDS MAKES ME FEEL HIGHLY UNEASY!
HM ..
I'M WILLING TO DO WHATEVER IT TAKES AND WON'T FEAR ANY JOURNEY, DESPITE THE DIFFICULTY!
NOT AT ALL! FOR THE SAKE OF PEACE BETWEEN THIS HONORABLE NATION AND MY LORD XUAN DE...

WELL, I MIGHT AS WELL HEAD BACK EARLIER
!
AND KONG MING DOESN'T SEEM THAT AMAZING AT ALL, COMPLETELY UNLIKE THE HIDDEN DRAGON RUMORS!
THIS IS GETTING BORING
SHE'S THE MAIDEN FROM YESTERDAY!
THAT GIRL!
THAT OTHER MAIDEN MIGHT BE HIDDEN NEARBY AS WELL?
SO, THE ONE WITH HER ...
NO WONDER SHE'S SO TALENTED!
SHE'S ONE OF KONG MING'S PARTY?!
ACK, SHE'S STARTING TO SCAN AROUND!
SCAN! SCAN!


KONG MING ...
HOW PERPLEXING! I CAN'T BELIEVE SHE WAS ACTUALLY SUN QUAN'S YOUNGER SISTER!
LOOKS LIKE SHE FOUND OUT ABOUT LIAN HUA
SHE CAN'T BE ABLE TO FIGURE OUT MY BACKGROUND, BUT...
CONCERNING ITS CONTENTS, I'M NOT SURE OF HOW BEST TO INFORM YOU ...
JUST RECENTLY, CAO CAO SENT ME A COURIER CARRYING A LETTER
THEN WILLINGLY AGREES TO DIVIDE JING ZHOU BETWEEN WU AND WEI, CORRECT?
HE PROBABLY OFFERS A FUTURE ALLIANCE BETWEEN WEI AND WU TO ATTACK XUAN DE
?
I DON'T HAVE TO SEE ITS CONTENTS TO UNDERSTAND CAO CAO'S INTENTS!
NO

?
NOT ONLY DID YOU REVEAL THE CONTENTS OF THE LETTER, BUT YOU ALSO SAW THROUGH MY MANUEVERING!
AS EXPECTED OF THE HIDDEN DRAGON
...
WITH JUST A FEW SENTENCES, HE CAN DETERMINE THE CHARACTER AND THOUGHTS OF ANOTHER, THIS LIFE OR DEATH BATTLE HAS JUST BEGUN!
YOU CLEARLY KNEW I WAS TESTING YOU, YET REFUSED TO REBUKE ME, BUT INSTEAD GAVE ME A REPLY I OFFER YOU MY SINCEREST APOLOGIES
I DIDN'T REVEAL THE CONTENTS BECAUSE I WANTED TO TEST YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF CAO CAO'S CHARACTER

UNLESS WE CAN CHANGE THEIR THINKING IN THIS CONVERSATIONAL BATTLE, THERE'S NO WAY TO DEFEAT CAO CAO!
AND, EVERY MAJOR OFFICIAL HERE HOPES TO CURRY GOOD RELATIONS WITH CAO CAO ...
IF WE LOSE, DEATH IS THE ONLY POSSIBILITY, KONG MING WANTS TO SINGLEHANDEDLY CREAT AN ALLIANCE WITH WU!
ALTHOUGH IT'S JUST A CONVERSATIONAL BATTLE, IT'S A MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH!
WHAT STRATEGY SHOULD MY NATION USE TO COUNTER CAO CAO?
THEN, I'D LIKE TO HEAR KONG MING'S ADVICE ...

FOR LORD SUN QUAN, THE OPTIMAL STRATEGY IS...
YES
TO RESIST CAO CAO ALL THE WAY UNTIL THE END!
THIS IS THE ONLY POSSIBLE STRATEGY!

LAKE BO YANG NAVAL TRAINING CENTER
KONG MING MUST BE TRYING HIS BEST TO WIN OVER MY LORD!
URGING US TO RESIST CAO CAO TOGETHER!
KONG MING AND THE DRAGON ADVISER HAVE ARRIVED IN CHAI SANG ALREADY?
OH ...
MY LORD IS STILL YOUNG ...
AN UNDERLYING FIERCENESS BELIES HIS CALM EXTERIOR, I'M AFRAID THAT KONG MING MAY BE ABLE TO USE THAT TO HIS ADVANTAGE!

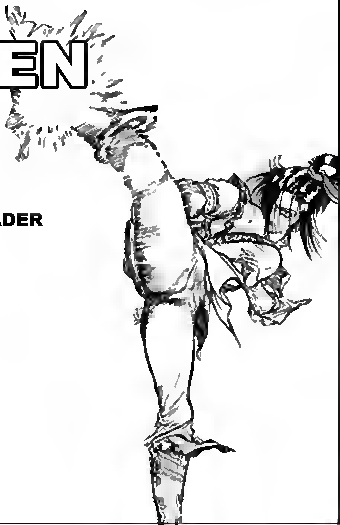
HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO HEAD TOWARD CHAI SANG
SEEMS LIKE I, ZHOU YU!
END OF CHAPTER 30

HI EVERYONE,

THESE TWO CHAPTERS OF RYUURODEN WERE A PAIN TO FINISH, SINCE THERE ARE NO MORE EDITORS ON RYUURODEN, ALL THE JKP EDITORS GATHERED TO CLEAN, TEXT AND MAKE A RELEASE OF THOSE 100+ PAGES. THANKS TO GREENERY, SAMBAZ, KESS, CORIOLIS AND LEVIN FOR THEIR EFFORTS IN HELPING ME MAKE IT HAPPEN. I'LL ALSO USE THE OPPORTUNITY TO TELL YOU GUYS THIS: IF YOU WANT TO SEE MORE REGULAR RELEASES OF RYUURODEN, THEN JOIN JKP AS AN EDITOR. THE RAWS ARE EASY TO DEAL WITH AND YOU'LL BE TAUGHT ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT EDITING THEM. SO YOU JUST HAVE TO GET PHOTOSHOP 7 OR HIGHER AND EMAIL ME AT KAKOKU2000@YAHOO.FR AFTER INSTALLING IT.

-APEMAN

RYUURODEN



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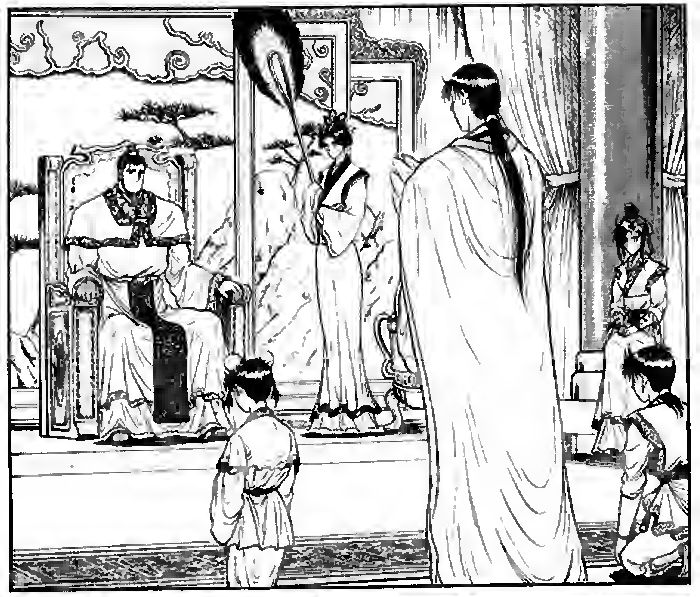
CHAPTER 31

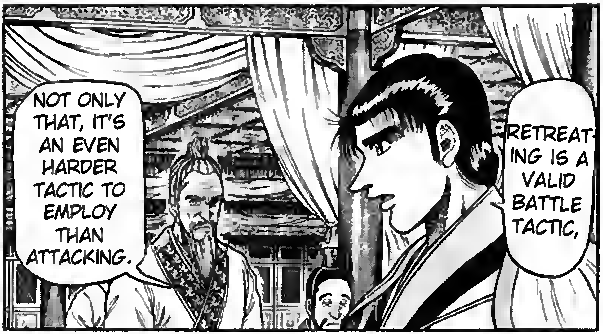
THE FEARSOME REPUTATION OF THE HIDDEN DRAGON HERO



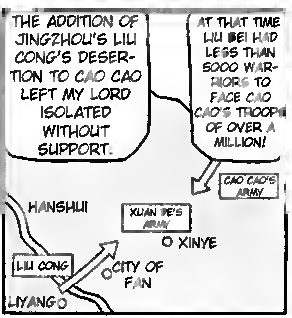
YES!
YOU BELIEVE THAT FOR THE SAKE OF WU, WE MUST ENGAGE CAO CAO?
YES.

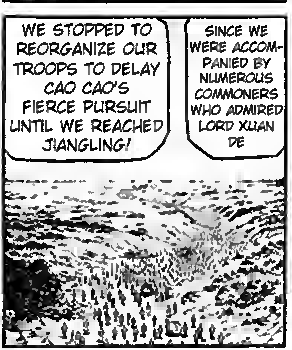
I THINK KONG MING'S LINE OF THINK-ING...
IS HIGHLY QUES-TION-ABLE!
ZHANG ZHAO, AN ELDER OFFICIAL OF WU
PLEASE SLOW DOWN, MY LORD!
!
!
...
YES!
SPEAK, ZHANG ZHAO; WHAT'S YOUR PER-SPECTIVE ON THIS?
YES!
3

BEING FORCED BY CAO CAO WITH NOWHERE TO TURN, BARELY ESCAPING TO XIAKOU...
YET, EVEN WITH SUCH A GREAT SCHOLAR AT HIS SIDE, LORD XUAN DE APPARENTLY SUFFERED DEFEAT!
EVERYONE KNOWS THAT HE'S AKNOWLEDGED BY THE PEOPLE AS THE GREAT HIDDEN DRAGON SCHOLAR.
WHEN IT COMES TO KONG MING,
WE MUST NEVER ACCEPT UNDER ANY CONDITION!
ADVICE FROM ONE WHO URGES US TO ENGAGE IN COMBAT WITH CAO CAO, YET LED HIS TROOPS TO DISASTER..
ス...
YES...
KONG MING, IF YOU CAN'T DEFEAT HIM, MY LORD WON'T AGREE TO ENGAGE IN COMBAT; HOW WILL YOU REFUTE HIS ARGUMENT?
ZHANG ZHAO IS WU'S MOST FAMOUS ORATOR,


RETREATING IS A VALID BATTLE TACTIC,
NOT ONLY THAT, IT'S AN EVEN HARDER TACTIC TO EMPLOY THAN ATTACKING.

HOW DO WE FIGHT SO THAT WE CAN ESCAPE THE GRASP OF CAO CAO'S ARMY, FINDING A SURVIVAL ROUTE? IS ANY MILITARY TASK MORE DIFFICULT THAN THIS?
HAVING TO FIGHT WITHOUT COVER ON THE OPEN PLAINS AND TO CARE FOR NUMEROUS COMMONERS,


THE ADDITION OF JINGZHOU'S LIU CONG'S DESERTION TO CAO CAO LEFT MY LORD ISOLATED WITHOUT SUPPORT.
AT THAT TIME LIU BEI HAD LESS THAN 5000 WARRIORS TO FACE CAO CAO'S TROOPS OF OVER A MILLION!
CAO CAO'S ARMY
HANSHUI
XUAN DE'S ARMY
XINYE
LIU CONG
CITY OF FAN
LIYANG

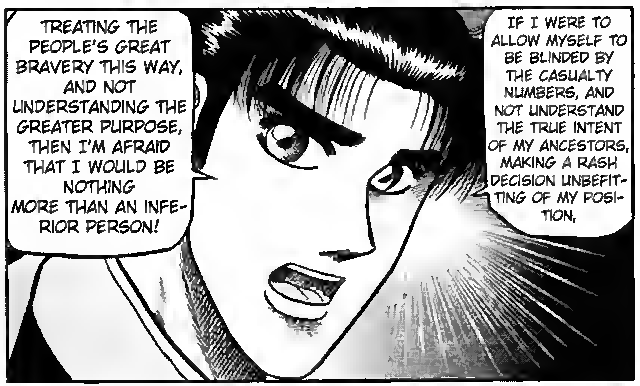

WE STOPPED TO REORGANIZE OUR TROOPS TO DELAY CAO CAO'S FIERCE PURSUIT UNTIL WE REACHED JIANGLING!
SINCE WE WERE ACCOMPANIED BY NUMEROUS COMMONERS WHO ADMIRED LORD XUAN DE

I'D LIKE TO HEAR IF YOU, SIR, HAVE THE FAITH AND STRATEGY TO SMOOTHLY PRESERVE HIS LIFE?
IF YOUR EXCELLENCY WAS UNDER SUCH CONDITIONS,
THIS... THIS MATTER ...
UH ...
AND I SINCERELY RESPECT THAT, YET, THE RESULT WAS THAT MORE COMMONERS DIED AT THE HANDS OF CAO CAO'S TROOPS, ISN'T THIS SELF-DEFEATING?
SLOWING DOWN THE TROOPS TO PROTECT THE FOLLOWING COMMONERS SHOWS LORD XUAN DE'S BENEVOLENCE AND VIRTUOUS NATURE,
UH ...
!
THEN, I SHOULD ASK YOU SIR,
HUIJI PREFECT YU FAN

HUIJI IS A PREFECTURE, OF WHICH YU FAN IS THE PREFECT

IN YOUR EYES, MIGHT BE A FOOLISH ENDEAVOR.
YES, BRINGING COMMONERS WITH US,
?
THE NARROW-SIGHTEDNESS OF SHORT TERM GAIN FROM THE VIEW OF AN INFERIOR PERSON!
BUT, THAT'S ONLY BECAUSE OF
YET, THEY DIDN'T CARE ABOUT THEIR OWN SAFETY AND URGED LORD XUAN DE "MY LORD, YOU CARRY ALL THE HOPES OF THE PEOPLE, PLEASE HURRY AND ESCAPE!
IN THE MIDDLE OF THE CAMPAIGN, THE PEOPLE SAW THAT CAO CAO'S TROOPS WERE ABOUT TO START SLAUGHTERING THE PEOPLE,
THE VIEW OF AN INFERIOR PERSON...?
WHAT?
YES!

QUICKLY BECOMING A GREAT TIDE OF SUPPORT FOR LORD XUAN DE, INCITING FEAR IN CAO CAO DESPITE HIS OVERWHELMING MILITARY STRENGTH!
YES, MANY LIVES WERE LOST, BUT THE SURVIVORS WILL HAVE THEIR STORIES REMEMBERED AND RETOLD,


TREATING THE PEOPLE'S GREAT BRAVERY THIS WAY, AND NOT UNDERSTANDING THE GREATER PURPOSE, THEN I'M AFRAID THAT I WOULD BE NOTHING MORE THAN AN INFERIOR PERSON!
IF I WERE TO ALLOW MYSELF TO BE BLINDED BY THE CASUALTY NUMBERS, AND NOT UNDERSTAND THE TRUE INTENT OF MY ANCESTORS, MAKING A RASH DECISION UNBEFITTING OF MY POSITION,

HOLD ON, KONG MING!

UH ...!

WHAT YOU SAID WAS TRUE!
HOWEVER, WU'S CURRENT SITUATION IS DIFFERENT FROM THAT OF LORD XUAN DE'S RETREAT; WHY SHOULD WE OFFER BATTLE AND PLUNGE WU'S PEOPLE INTO THE EXTREME PAIN OF WARFARE?
XUE CONG, 5TH GRADE OFFICIAL
IT SEEMS THAT YOU'VE ALSO BLINDED YOURSELF TO THE CURRENT SITUATION, IF YOU SAY THAT "THE CIRCUMSTANCES ARE DIFFERENT".
ALTHOUGH THE TIMING AND LOCATION ARE DIFFERENT, THE UNDERLYING SITUATION IS EXACTLY THE SAME!
THEN,
YOU'RE IMPLYING
THAT MY LORD AND LORD XUAN DE ARE UNDER THE SAME CIRCUMSTANCES?
EXACTLY! THE CONCEPT'S NOT HARD TO UNDERSTAND IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT A BIT.
WHY DID THE PEOPLE WANT TO FOLLOW LORD XUAN DE?

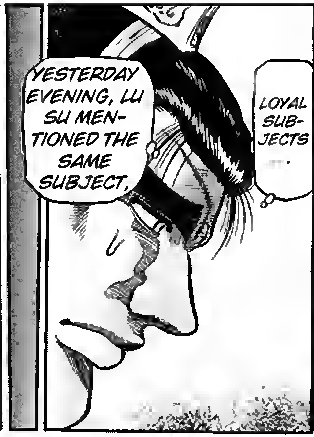
AT THE HANDS OF A RASH INDIVIDUAL IN XUZHOU, HE DIDN'T EVEN SPARE INNOCENTS; THIS FACT IS WELL-KNOWN BY THE PEOPLE,
BECAUSE HE BECAME ENRAGED DUE TO HIS FATHER'S DEATH
CAO CAO'S AN EXTREMELY EMOTIONAL PERSON,
THE REASON IS, THAT
THE POWER OF THE HAN EMPIRE ISN'T IN THE HANDS OF THE EMPEROR, BUT RATHER IN THE HANDS OF CAO CAO.
ALSO, HIS RESPECT FOR THE EMPEROR IS ONLY FOR SHOW,
IT ISN'T JUST THE PEOPLE OF JINGZHOU THAT SHOULD FEAR HIS RULE, BUT THE PEOPLE OF WU SHOULD FEAR AS WELL.
HE DISRESPECTS THE EMPEROR, IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT HE DISRESPECTS THE PEOPLE AS WELL. HOW CAN THE PEOPLE LIVE A PEACEFUL LIFE WITHOUT CONCERN UNDER HIS RULE?

WHO DARES TO BELIEVE THAT THE PEOPLE OF WU DOESN'T HOPE FOR THE SAME, WITH LEADERSHIP UNDER LORD SUN QUAN?
JUST AS THE PEOPLE OF JINGZHOU SPURNED CAO CAO'S RULE BY LEAVING WITH LORD XUAN DE,
AH...
AH...
!!
THIS IS KONG MING'S TRUE LEVEL OF SKILL!
AMAZ ING!
KONG MING'S DEFI- NITELY RIGHT!
THAT'S RIGHT!

THEY'RE COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM THE GENTLEMEN GATHERED HERE!
THE PEOPLE THAT LOOK TO LORD XUAN DE FOR GUIDANCE ALL HAVE NO MEANS OF PROTECTING THEMSELVES.
YET, THEY TRUST MY LORD, NOT FEARING DEATH, BUT WANTING TO RESIST CAO CAO UNTIL THE END,
THEY UNDERSTAND THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN RIGHT AND WRONG, AND WON'T SURRENDER IN THE FACE OF MASSIVE TROOPS,
THEY DON'T LOSE THEIR SPIRIT WHEN CONFRONTED WITH CAO CAO'S MASSIVE TROOPS,

THE ONES THAT ARE REALLY LOYAL SUBJECTS TO THEIR LORD, SHOULD BE QUITE CLEAR!
IF YOU COMPARE THE GENTLEMEN GATHERED HERE AGAINST THE PEOPLE OF JINGZHOU,

HE LEFT ME WITH NO POSSI-BLE RETORT!
THAT ELO-QUENT UPSTART
AH....
JUST AS I EXPECTED FROM HIDDEN DRAGON
HE WAS ABLE TO MAKE ZHANG ZHAO, THE CHIEF ADMINIS-TRATOR OF WU'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS, SPEECHLESS!


LOYAL SUBJECTS...
YESTERDAY EVENING, LU SU MENTIONED THE SAME SUBJECT,

HOWEVER, THIS PATH WILL EVENTUALLY LEAVE MY LORD IN AN UNTENABLE POSITION.
YES! IF WE YIELD, WE CAN AVOID COMBAT, AND WON'T SUFFER A GREAT LOSS OF LIFE AMONGST OUR TROOPS,

RIGHT, LU SU?
YOU MENTIONED THAT WE CAN'T YIELD LIGHTLY,

PLEASE CONTINUE, HOW SO?

BUT AS FOR YOU, WHO HOLDS THE REAL POWER IN WU, CAO CAO WON'T FORGIVE YOU!
IF ZHANG ZHAO AND I ARE WILLING TO RECEIVE A DEMOTION IN RANK, AFTER WE SURRENDER, WE CAN STILL BE MINOR OFFICIALS
YES ...
AND YOU'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO SEE THE SUN AGAIN!
HE'LL STRIP YOU OF ALL OF YOUR POWERS, AND SEAL YOU AWAY SOMEWHERE
IF THEY WERE THINKING WITH TRUE CONCERNED FOR THEIR LORD'S SAKE,
YOUR SUBJECTS SHOULD RECOGNIZE THAT IT'S A MISTAKE TO SURRENDER
THAT'S POSSIBLE...
YES ...
BUT INSTEAD, SHOULDN'T THEY HAVE FORESIGHT TO RECOGNIZE WHAT WILL HAPPEN?
EVERYONE'S TOO AFRAID THAT WU WILL BE ANNIHILATED BY WARFARE,

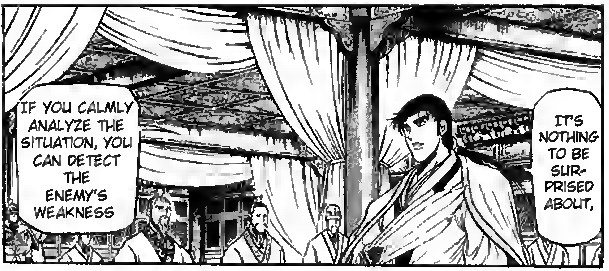
LU SU'S COMMENTS MAKE SENSE IF I WISH TO PROTECT MYSELF!
TRULY ...
HE LECTURED THESE IMPORTANT SUBJECTS ON PROPER CONDUCT, AND CLARIFIED THE FEELINGS OF THE PEOPLE,
AND, IF I ADD KONG MING'S VIEWPOINT,
IF I FOLLOW HIS LOGIC, HE ALSO WANTS ME TO ACT LIKE A LORD THAT THE PEOPLE ARE HOPING FOR!
APPARENTLY, THE PEOPLE OF WU WOULD RATHER SUPPORT ME OVER CAO CAO,

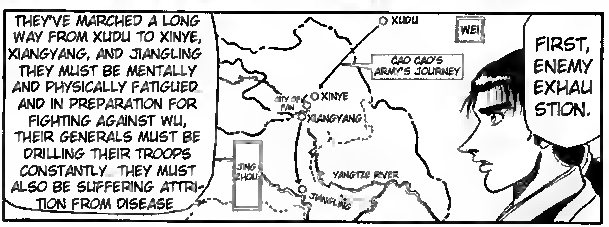
I NEVER THOUGHT I'D BE CONVINCED BY HIS ARGUMENT TO FIGHT AGAINST CAO CAO, AND REALIZE THAT I'M CURRENTLY LACKING THE QUALITIES THAT WU'S PEOPLE ARE LOOKING FOR!
HOW DID THIS HAPPEN? ORGINALLY, I JUST WANTED TO TEST IF HE MIGHT BE SOMEONE THAT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO WU,
WITHIN HIM, LIES AN ASCENDING DRAGON WITH LIMITLESS INTELLIGENCE!
NO WONDER HE'S THE HIDDEN DRAGON!

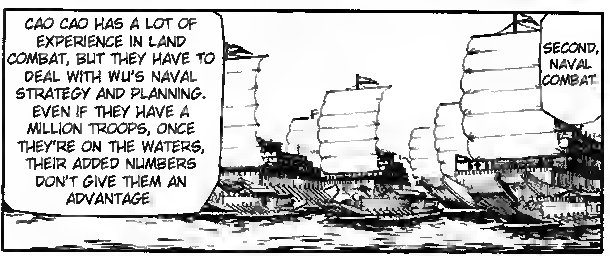
HI-YA!
WHAT A USELESS BUNCH!
フク…
USUALLY, EVERYONE'S SO OPINIONATED, AND WON'T STOP TALKING; I NEVER THOUGHT THAT UPON MEETING KONG MING, THAT EVERYONE WOULD SUDDENLY BE TONGUE-TIED, AND CAN'T SAY A SINGLE WORD!
STOP DISCUSSING THE TRUE INTENTIONS OF OUR SUBJECTS!
RIGHT NOW, THE MOST IMPORTANT CONSIDERATION IS TO FIGURE OUT IF WE HAVE A WINNING STRATEGY, THAT SHOULD BE IT!
ISN'T THAT RIGHT, KONG MING?
DISCUSSING SO MANY REASONS FOR GIVING BATTLE, I BET YOU MUST HAVE A STRATEGY FOR WINNING, RIGHT?
?

SUN ZI OR SUN TZU THE AUTHOR OF THE ART OF WAR

I KNOW THE ENEMY, SO I KNOW A STRATEGY FOR WINNING, THAT'S WHY I STRONGLY PUSHED FOR ENGAGING IN COMBAT!
SUN ZI SAID THAT "IF YOU KNOW THE ENEMY AND KNOW YOURSELF, YOU NEED NOT FEAR THE RESULT OF A HUNDRED BATTLES",


IF YOU CALMLY ANALYZE THE SITUATION, YOU CAN DETECT THE ENEMY'S WEAKNESS
IT'S NOTHING TO BE SURPRISED ABOUT,


THEY'VE MARCHED A LONG WAY FROM XUDU TO XINYE, XIANGYANG, AND JIANGLING. THEY MUST BE MENTALLY AND PHYSICALLY FATIGUED AND IN PREPARATION FOR FIGHTING AGAINST WU, THEIR GENERALS MUST BE DRILLING THEIR TROOPS CONSTANTLY. THEY MUST ALSO BE SUFFERING ATTRITION FROM DISEASE
XUDU
WEI
CAO CAO'S ARMY'S JOURNEY
XINYE
XIANGYANG
JING ZHOU
YANGTZE RIVER
JIANGLING
FIRST, ENEMY EXHAUSTION.


CAO CAO HAS A LOT OF EXPERIENCE IN LAND COMBAT, BUT THEY HAVE TO DEAL WITH WU'S NAVAL STRATEGY AND PLANNING. EVEN IF THEY HAVE A MILLION TROOPS, ONCE THEY'RE ON THE WATERS, THEIR ADDED NUMBERS DON'T GIVE THEM AN ADVANTAGE
SECOND, NAVAL COMBAT.

ALTHOUGH CAO CAO OBTAINED JINGZHOU'S ARMY AND NAVY, THERE MUST BE SOLDIERS AND PEOPLE THAT DON'T SUPPORT HIM. IF WE USE THEM WELL, IT'S NOT DIFFICULT TO INCITE A REVOLT, THROWING THEIR ARMY INTO CHAOS!
THIRD, DISCONTENT AMONG THE ENEMY ARMY.

THAT MAKES SENSE!
YES,
WOW ...
PLEASE CALM DOWN AND STOP THINKING IMPULSIVELY!
IT'LL ACTUALLY BE QUITE DIFFICULT FOR CAO CAO'S ARMY TO ATTACK US.
WHAT HE SAYS SOUNDS REASONABLE!
THERE'S ONLY THE POSSIBILITY OF DEFEAT, HOWEVER, WE EVEN HAVE FORTUNE ON OUR SIDE!
BATTLES ARE DYNAMIC, COUNTLESS THINGS MAY HAPPEN, BUT, IF WE DON'T SUPPORT THE TROOPS IN BATTLE,
THERE'S NO ACTUAL GUARANTEE OF VICTORY AT ALL, RIGHT?
THAT'S JUST CONJECTURE,
!
?

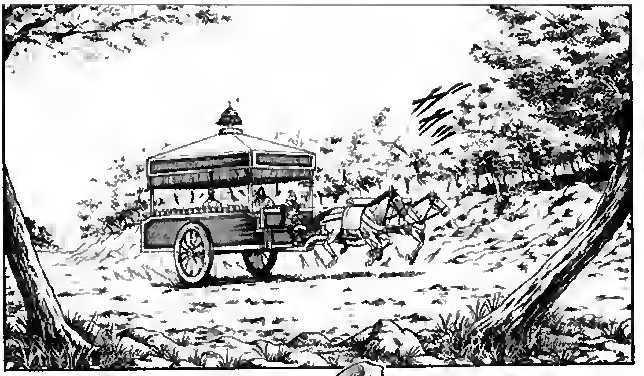
HE'S
THE DRAGON CHILD!
WOW, THE DRAGON CHILD!
AH!
THAT YOUNGSTER IS THE DRAGON CHILD?
HE'S THE ONE THAT INFLICTED A HEADACHE FOR CAO CAO'S ARMY, THE DRAGON CHILD?
HE SEEMS TO BE RIGHT AROUND MY AGE!
AH...

LU XUN'S EYES ARE APPARENTLY QUITE REMARKABLE!
THAT'S HOW IT IS! HE SHARES MANY SIMILARITIES WITH THAT MAIDEN THAT WE MET YESTERDAY!
PLEASE WAIT, KONG MING,
THE LEGEND OF THE DRAGON CHILD HAS REACHED WU,
BUT CAO CAO ALSO HAS A DRAGON GIRL BESIDES HIM, DON'T BOTH SIDES HAVE THE PROTECTION OF THE GODS, THUS CANCELLING EACH OTHER OUT?
...
NO,
YOU'RE MISTAKEN!

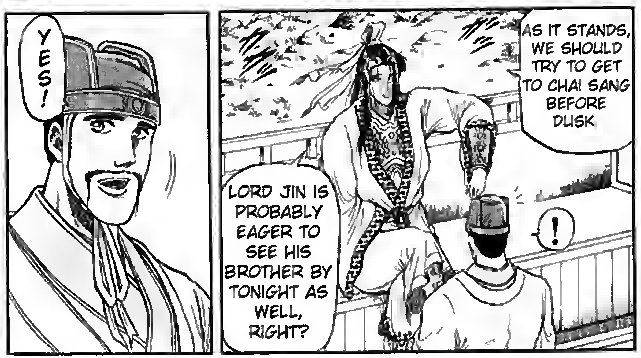
THE DRAGON GIRL NEVER STUDIED BOOKS ON WARFARE,
ALTHOUGH SHE'S BEEN CALLED THE DRAGON GIRL, SHE DOESN'T HAVE ANY KNOWLEDGE OF WAR STRATEGY, IF SHE ENTERS THE BATTLEFIELD, SHE'S JUST A REGULAR DRAGON GIRL, HOW COULD SHE COMPARE AGAINST ME?
AH ...
THIS IS!
WOW.
YOU SEEM TO BE QUITE CONFIDENT, DRAGON ADVISER!
BUT AS FOR MYSELF, I PREFER TO SEE EVIDENCE BEFORE PLACING MY TRUST.
NOT JUST YOUR STRENGTH AS A MILITARY STRATEGIST, BUT AS A BATTLE GOD WITH A DRAGON'S STRENGTH AS WELL!

!
ALTHOUGH YOU'RE RUMORED TO HAVE STOPPED CAO CAO'S ADVANCE BY YOURSELF,
COULDN'T YOU JUST LET US SEE THAT SKILL WITH OUR OWN EYES?
YEAH!
WELL SAID, PRINCESS REN!
IF WE DON'T SEE IT WITH OUR OWN EYES, HOW CAN WE SO EASILY BELIEVE THAT HE'S THE DRAGON CHILD?
YES,
SEEING DRAGON CHILD'S MARTIAL ARTS SKILLS ON THE BATTLE-FIELD, MAY RAISE OUR TROOP MORALE,
REN IS RIGHT ...

HOW ABOUT IT, DRAGON ADVISER?
WILL YOU SHOW YOUR MARTIAL ARTS SKILLS TO EVERYONE HERE?
SHIRO
DEFI-NITELY,
LORD SUN QUAN, I'M MORE THAN WILLING!



THE PRINCESS IS PROBABLY ENGAGED IN A LIVELY DISCUSSION WITH KONG MING, RIGHT?
RIGHT NOW,


YES!
LORD JIN IS PROBABLY EAGER TO SEE HIS BROTHER BY TONIGHT AS WELL, RIGHT?
AS IT STANDS, WE SHOULD TRY TO GET TO CHAI SANG BEFORE DUSK
!

AFTER HE BECAME A MAN, I HEARD HIM BEING REFERRED TO AS THE HIDDEN DRAGON, BUT AS AN ADVISER TO WU, BUSY WITH ADMINISTRATIVE TASKS, I ONLY HAD TIME TO HEAR ABOUT HIM, BUT NONE TO MEET HIM.
AFTER KONG MING AND I LAST SEPARATED, HE WAS STILL A YOUTH THAT HADN'T GROWN UP YET,
AN ELDER OFFICIAL OF WU ZHUGE JIN
THAT'S RIGHT!
THAT I'D EVEN HEAR ABOUT HIM IN WU AS THE ELDER BROTHER, IT'S HARD TO KEEP MY EMOTIONS IN CHECK!
I NEVER EXPECTED THAT THE IGNORANT YOUTH THAT I KNEW WOULD ONE DAY BECOME SO FAMOUS AS A MILITARY ADVISOR UNDER EMPEROR LIU'S UNCLE
THE TRUE REASON FOR YOUR BROTHER'S VISIT!
BUT, YOU SHOULDN'T FORGET,

EMPEROR LIU'S UNCLE = LIU BEI

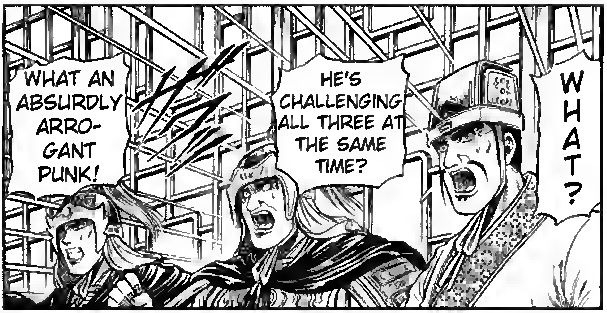
YES!
.....
IS INTENDED TO URGE WU TO FIGHT AGAINST CAO CAO!
THIS TRIP,
WHAT'S YOUR OPINION ON THIS MATTER? DO YOU THINK THAT WU SHOULD FIGHT AGAINST CAO CAO?
MAY I ASK GENERAL ZHOU YU,
AND ACCESS WHETHER HIDDEN DRAGON HAS CREATED A MODERN WEAPON, BEFORE I CAN DECIDE
I'LL HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL MY MEETING WITH THE HIDDEN DRAGON,
...

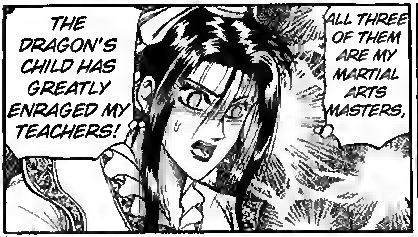
ス…
!
ス…

THEIR SKILL IS DEFINITELY NOT INFERIOR TO THAT OF CAO CAO'S FIERCE GENERALS!
DRAGON MILITARY ADVISER, THESE THREE ARE GENERALLY CONSIDERED TO BE MARTIAL ARTS MASTERS OF VARIOUS DICIPLINES IN WU,
YES,
THE BARE FIST COMBAT TEACHER OF ALL OF WU'S TROOPS, MASTER WANG HU
COMPLETE EMPTINESS BLADE MASTER CHEN
SPEAR MASTER LI FENG,
"COMPLETE EMPTINESS PROBABLY HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH BUDDHISM"

I WANT TO SEEM WHO YOU'LL CHOSE TO FIGHT AGAINST, DRAGON MILITARY ADVISER!
A FIGHT AGAINST SPEAR, BLADE, OR HAND-TO-HAND COMBAT, IT'S YOUR CHOICE,
?!

I'LL GO AGAINST ALL THREE AT ONCE, COME!
NO, IT'S TOO BOTHER-SOME TO GO ONE AT A TIME,
!!


WHAT AN ABSURDLY ARRO-GANT PUNK!
HE'S CHALLENGING ALL THREE AT THE SAME TIME?
WHAT?

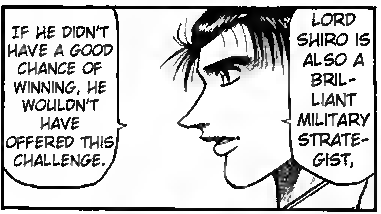

THE DRAGON'S CHILD HAS GREATLY ENRAGED MY TEACHERS!
ALL THREE OF THEM ARE MY MARTIAL ARTS MASTERS.

ISN'T THAT TOO MUCH?

HOW MUCH SKILL YOU HAVE, DRAGON'S CHILD!
LET ME WITNESS,

IT'S GETTING MORE AND MORE INTER-ESTING!
THIS IS GREAT.

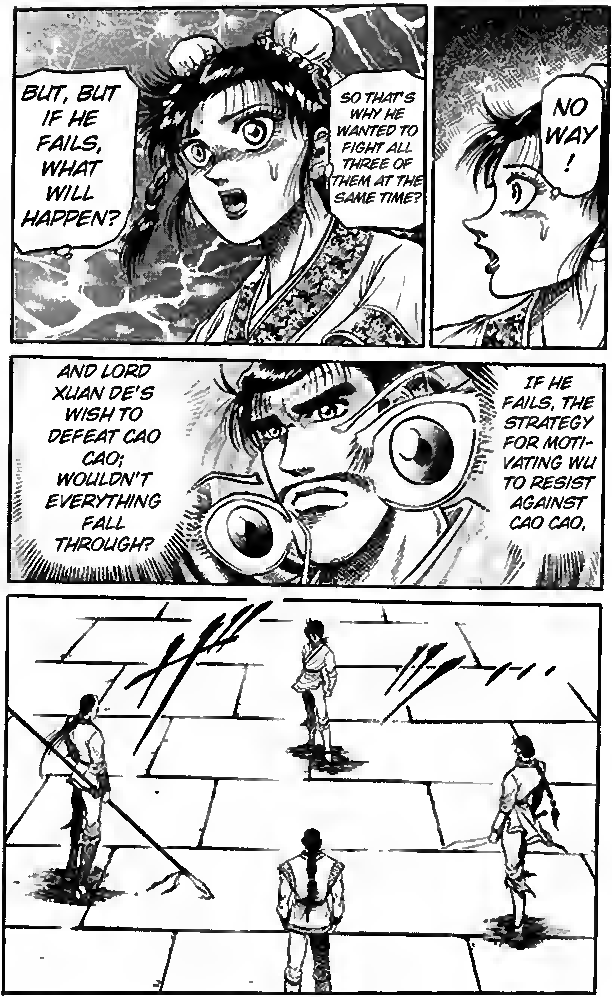
WOULDN'T IT BE BETTER IF WE STOP THAT FOOL FROM COM-PETING?
KONG, KONG MING,

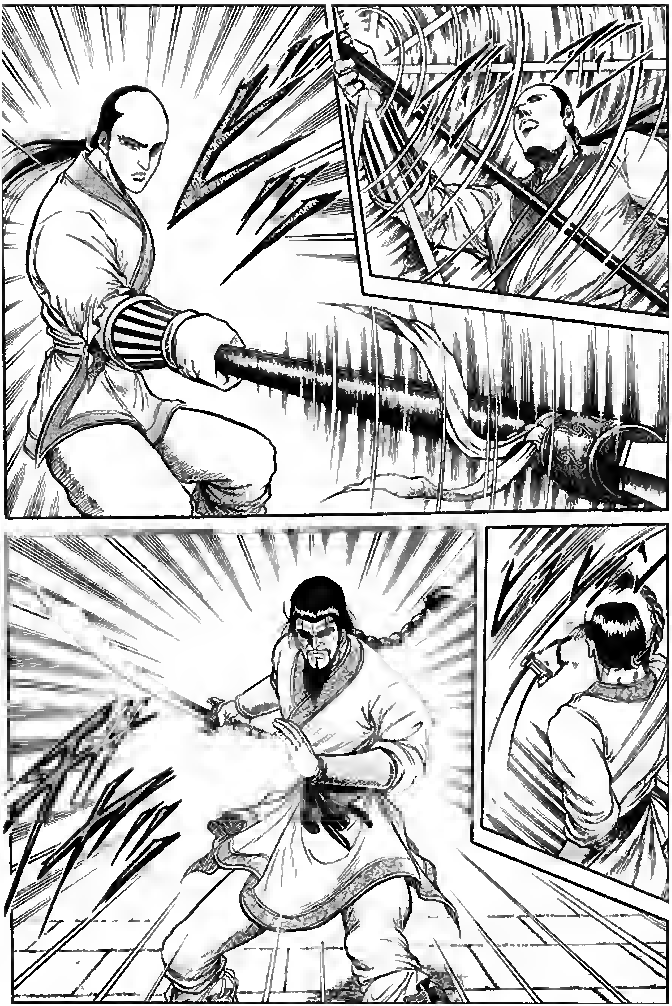

IF HE DIDN'T HAVE A GOOD CHANCE OF WINNING, HE WOULDN'T HAVE OFFERED THIS CHALLENGE.
LORD SHIRO IS ALSO A BRIL-LIANT MILITARY STRATE-GIST,

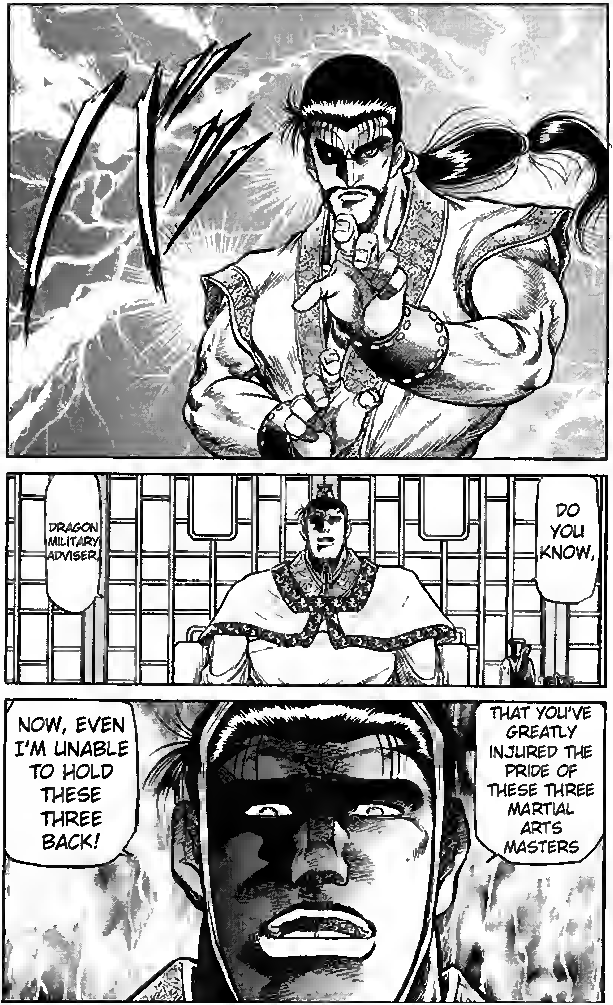
DON'T WORRY, LIAN HUA,

NO MATTER HOW SKILLED HE IS, HE SHOULDN'T BE ABLE TO CONFRONT THREE MARTIAL ARTS MASTERS OF DIFFERENT STYLES AT THE SAME TIME, RIGHT?
BUT,

THE DRAGON CHILD IS AN EXISTENCE THAT EXCEEDS UNDERSTANDING BY MANKIND!
TO GAIN EVERYONE'S RECOGNITION, THAT
THIS IS JUST A SIMPLE COMPETITION,
NO, LIAN HUA,
!!
IS CALMER THAN ANYONE ELSE!
THE PERSON TRYING TO ACCOMPLISH THIS, THE DRAGON CHILD SHIRO,
IF THE DRAGON CHILD CAN GAIN THIS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT,
THEN THEY WON'T FEAR CAO CAO'S GREAT ARMY. THEY SHOULD ALSO THEN BE HIGHLY HOPEFUL!


BUT, BUT IF HE FAILS, WHAT WILL HAPPEN?
SO THAT'S WHY HE WANTED TO FIGHT ALL THREE OF THEM AT THE SAME TIME?
NO WAY!
AND LORD XUAN DE'S WISH TO DEFEAT CAO CAO; WOULDN'T EVERYTHING FALL THROUGH?
IF HE FAILS, THE STRATEGY FOR MOTIVATING WU TO RESIST AGAINST CAO CAO,




DRAGON MILITARY ADVISER,
DO YOU KNOW,
NOW, EVEN I'M UNABLE TO HOLD THESE THREE BACK!
THAT YOU'VE GREATLY INJURED THE PRIDE OF THESE THREE MARTIAL ARTS MASTERS

THANK YOU, LORD OF WU!
HOWEVER, THEY'LL BE DEALING WITH THE DRAGON CHILD,
AS THE DRAGON CHILD,
THERE'S NO CHANCE THAT I'LL LOSE TO HUMANS!

!
!!
!
WHAT, WHAT IS THIS? WHAT A HIGHLY FEARSOME PRESENCE!
!?
OH!
IT CAN'T BE, RIGHT?
IT CAN'T...
DRAGON CHILD'S KI IS CONTINUOUSLY RADIANTING AND EXTENDING OUTWARDS, WHAT'S GOING ON?
THIS IS ...?

IT'S SO SIMILAR! ... IT'S JUST LIKE AT THAT TIME!
THIS FEELING ...
WHAT'S WRONG, LIAN HUA?
THE INSANE SHIRO THAT WOULDN'T STOP SLAUGHTERING THE TIGER ARMY DESPITE EXHAUSTION!
JUST LIKE WHEN HE WAS FIGHTING ALONE...
ス...

AS I AM RIGHT NOW, TAKING THEM ALL AT ONCE IS EXTREMELY DIFFICULT!
BUT, AS THE DRAGON CHILD, I MUST WIN, AND NOT BE AFRAID OF THE MULTIPLE CHALLENGES THAT I'LL FACE
I HAVE NO CHOICE; I MUST AWAKEN ALL OF MY "PHOENIX DESTRUCTION" POWERS WITHIN MY BODY,
AND TRUST IN MY INTERNAL STRENGTH!

龍狼傳 特別付錄

暢遊三國世界！

第14回 「三國志」中的美男子

「三國志」中有許多頗具大丈夫氣息的角色，且還佔了全篇壓倒性多數，就故事的屬性來看，那也是理所當然、無可厚非的，但也有極少數的例外，他就是吳之大將—周公瑾！

美周郎

「三國誌」是一部充滿陽剛氣的故事，關羽、張飛、夏侯淳等，信手捻來皆是代表人物的翹楚，不可勝數。

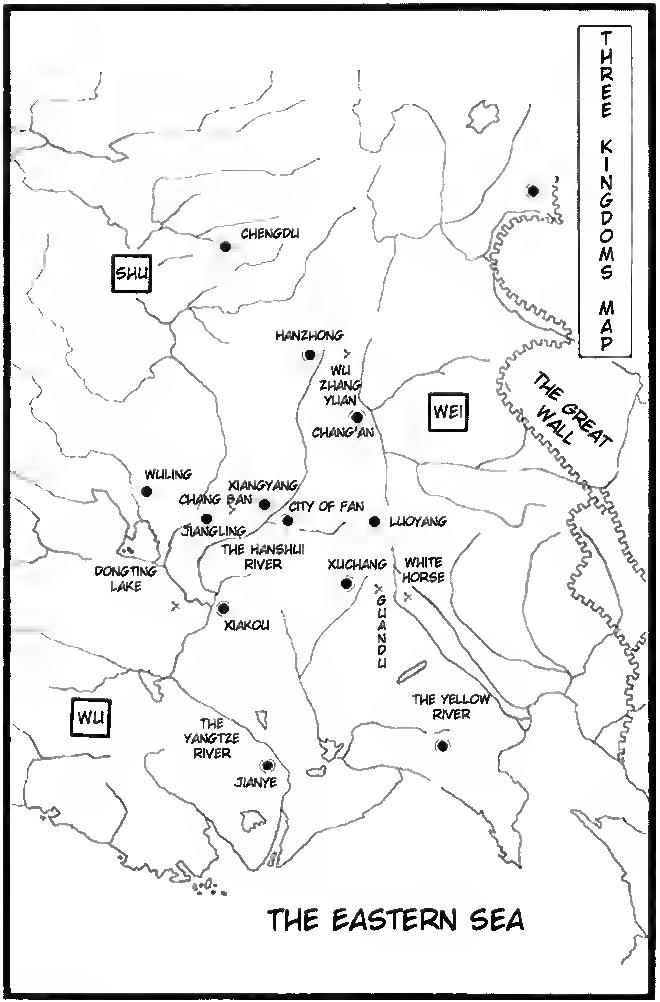
然而吳的名將周瑜卻是少數例外之一。他是個精通音樂的風流雅士，即使在觥籌交錯的酒席上，他仍能聽出樂師演奏時的錯誤。而且他的妻子還是素有「喬氏二美人」之稱的美女姊妹花中的妹妹小喬。周瑜深得吳主孫權的厚愛，是吳軍中的精英份子。

可惜在小說「三國演義」中，周瑜自始至終都只是陪襯諸葛孔明的綠葉角色而已。受到孔明的激將法而決意與曹操開戰、或是畏懼孔明的足智多謀、動不動就以「將來會成爲吳之禍害」的罪名企圖殺害他、是「三國演義」中的周瑜形象。

其實，眞正的周瑜應該不是這樣的小人物才對！在吳蜀連合抗曹的一役—亦即「赤壁之戰」時，根據史書「三國誌」的記載，劉備派諸葛亮到孫權處，孫權則命周瑜及程普與劉備連手破曹，文中並沒有提到諸葛孔明的具體活躍事蹟。「赤壁」的主角一直都是吳的水軍及指揮該水軍的周瑜而已。

關於周瑜，及帝位後的孫權曾說過：「若沒有周瑜，自己大概即不了帝位吧？」可見周瑜的地位有多重要。

（文・本誌編輯部）


THREE KINGDOMS MAP
SHU
CHENGDU
HANZHONG
WEI
ZHANG YUAN
CHANG'AN
THE GREAT WALL
WULING
CHANG PAN
XIANGYANG
CITY OF FAN
LUOYANG
JIANGLING
THE HANSHUI RIVER
DONGTING LAKE
XUCHANG
WHITE HORSE
XIAKOU
GUANDU
WU
THE YANGTZE RIVER
THE YELLOW RIVER
JIANYE
THE EASTERN SEA
CITIES
BATTLES

HI EVERYONE.

SORRY ABOUT THE LONG DELAY, BUT MY COMPUTER CRASHED AND IT TOOK A WHILE TO STRAIGHTEN OUT EVERYTHING. WE'VE GOT SOME NEW EDITORS AND SOME NEW TRANSLATORS. SO LOOK FORWARD TO MORE RYUURODEN.

-RAVENOUSREADER

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#JKP@IRC.HIGHWAY.NET

RAW PROVIDER:
RAVENOUSREADER

TRANSLATOR:
GEKODEMO

PROOFREADER:
APEMAN

EDITOR:
RAVENOUSREADER